
White County HISTORIAN

Volume 7, No. 3

July 2001

In this issue we are bringing you some articles that we hope you will find of interest. First we will be taking a look back to see how White County might have been seen by a visitor in the 1600's when the only residents of the area were native Indians. You will also find an article describing the all-American game of baseball as it was played by a youngster back in the 'thirties. And finally we are including some news of recent activities by the White County Historical Society. We hope you enjoy it all!

Before the Beginning . . .

by the late J. Robert Smith, written in 1966

Long before there was a Carmi, Indians lived here. Through their village ran a trail to a ford in the river. Eastward it went through tall prairie grass to the Ouabache River. Westward it plunged into the deep, dark forest; forked southward to La Belle Riviere and west to the Mississippi.

Braves loafed in the sunshine. Squaws skinned deer, tended fires, carried water from the stream, worked in corn rows, picked pumpkins and squash. Children played with dogs and splashed in the river.

Shawnees, Piankeshaws and Potawatomis prowled prairie and forest, as free as foxes and deer. They left the land unchanged. The river ran crystal clear, swift and deep. The forest remained uncut, unspoiled.

Giant oaks, maples, walnuts, chestnuts, sycamores and sweet gums reared skyward. They were so dense they shut out the light; left the forest floor in green shadow. Grape vines as big as a man's thigh snaked high into the trees.

This place was wildly beautiful. Whippoorwills called. Beavers built dams. Wolves howled. Passenger pigeons flew in flocks of millions. There were deer and bears in abundance.

East of the river, prairie grasses rippled as the waves of the sea. In springtime the prairies glowed with scarlet lilies, yellow cowslips, sweet Williams and violets. When the bluestem and Indian grasses grew in the summer sun they were high enough to hide a man on horseback.

From the Ouabache River the prairie sea rolled westward to the Petite Ouabache, then stopped---right here! West of the river was the forest sea---a mighty green ocean of trees, billowing and rolling in the ridges, hills and knobs of southern Illinois.

To the Indians, this land was beautiful and old . . . old.

To the Pioneers pushing westward, it was wild, bleak and---new!

Shared Memories

Perhaps there are those of you who have memories that you would like to share with our readers. Or you may have suggestions as to some subjects that you would like to see addressed in our Newsletter. If so, we would be very happy to hear from you. Any ideas or contributions may be sent to White County Historical Society, P. O. Box 57, Carmi, IL 62821.

Visiting the Museums

The Museums are being sponsored by the Historical Society so that anyone who is interested might have an opportunity to visit and enjoy them. It is somewhat difficult to plan how best to make them available, however. In past years we have had designated times for them to be open, but that does not seem to be too efficient in meeting the various needs of different groups. At the present time the museums are being shown by appointment. If you are aware of anyone who would like to see any or all of the museums, please call any of the Board members and we will do our best to make arrangements so that they can be open at a convenient time.

On Memorial Day weekend, Ron and Ellen Burgen called to see if they could arrange for their daughters and grandchildren to see the Robinson-Stewart House, the Matsel Cabin and the One Room Schoolhouse. Sam Endicott, Cindy Conley and Ted Matsel each took one of the museums so that the visitors could be accommodated. Letters of appreciation were sent to those Society members by the Burgen family. The one to Endicott is printed below:

Dear Mr. Endicott,

Thank you so much for taking the time out of your day to show us the log cabin! You know we've been hearing about that cabin for several years now, so it was really neat to get to go inside. Our children have visited living museums, etc., but they think it's great to have a real log cabin so close to Grandma and Grandpa's. We've been walking past the Mary Jane Stewart house for years - we finally got to see the inside! I would always tell them there was an Abraham Lincoln connection.

Maybe someday we'll get to see the Ratcliff Inn, too. Uncle Don took me there once when I was little, but all I remember is hardwood floor! I think I'll appreciate it more now!

Thanks for your work to help preserve our past. I think it's important for Carmi

Sincerely,

The Burrin family

Gary, Nancy, Nicholas, Eric and Natalie

Who did we blame our mistakes on before we had computers?

Play Ball !

by Don Prince

(Editor's note: Dr. Prince and his wife, the former Claire Sanders, were born and raised in Crossville. They have lived for many years in Winnetka, IL, and have been prominent in both the education and business communities of the state. This article is part of a description of "play" as it was in the first part of the 20th century. It was written for the Prince grandchildren to show there was life before TV and computer games!)

Playing was what I did best, because I spent so much time at it. I remember my boyhood as one big happy time. When I think about it, I realize there were disappointments, fears, challenges, and work, but the sharpness of them is blended into a sense of warm recollection.

My "Field of Dreams." I loved baseball. The only thing that kept me from playing first base for the St. Louis Cardinals was that I couldn't hit, run, throw, or field well enough. I had the desire. Collecting baseball cards, cut-out pictures from the newspapers, and "pretend" autographs that I wrote myself was not enough.

From about age eight to age eleven, we lived in a kind of isolated house in the country and that was when I decided to build my own baseball field.

I carried our hand-push mower to the cow pasture north of our house and mowed base paths. I can still feel the pain of the mower handle punching into my stomach when I ran into a big tuft of bluegrass or milkweed. Then I built up the pitcher's mound with clay from the creek bank; sawed, nailed, and painted white a home plate with the exact major league shape and dimensions; and spread lime down the right and left field base lines and to form two batters' boxes. I cut three eight-foot limbs from the willow tree, nailed a roll of my Dad's chicken wire to them, and planted my home-made backstop into the ground behind home plate. The final touch was filling three feed sacks with sand from the creek to make the three bases.

The rules of my one-boy game were these: Standing at home plate, I tossed the ball into the air and then batted it. As I ran the bases, I watched the flight and/or the bounce of the ball. If I reached first base while the ball was still in motion, I was safe, and could take my chances on rounding first and heading for second. If the ball died while I was running between bases I was out. Running through a cow pasture while looking back over my shoulder to see if a ball had yet died involved considerable risk. In the unlikely event that my hit reached the chicken house in right field or a flag I had posted in left, it was a home run.

More Baseball: Dice and Dominoes. My best buddy starting in early teenage years was Alvin Mayse, who brought with him when he moved from Evansville a baseball game that we played almost every day. The game involved establishing on paper your own baseball team, assigning a baseball outcome (such as a single, a walk, a fly to center, or an out from third to first, etc.) to each of the number combinations possible on the roll of two dice. Each manager rolled the dice and played until three outs ended his inning, meanwhile recording the runs scored. We kept official score books of all our games.

Strangely, I can still recall the outcome of most of the number combinations--two ones was a single, a one and a three was an out from third to first, a two and a three was a home run, and so on. Al and I ran into a temporary setback and had to modify the game when Mom threw our dice under the house where we could not reach them because, even though we were not gambling, dice were the "appearance of evil" as referenced in the Bible.

So Al and I commandeered my domino set and, with a jig-saw, sawed six dominoes into two pieces, with two pairs of numbers from one to six as dice would have provided. We put one set of numbers in one cereal bowl and the second set of numbers in another cereal bowl. Then, placing one hand each into each of the two bowls, we stirred the domino blocks to mix them up, and then pulled out a number from each bowl to provide us with the number combination that otherwise would have come from the dice. This system did not slow the game down for Al and me and, most importantly, met with Mom's approval.

Family Heritage Weekend Quilt Show

by Cindy Birk Conley

The first floor of the Ratcliff Inn became the home to a wide variety of quilts June 23 and 24, as the Society participated in the Illinois Association of Museum's Family Heritage Days promotion. In Southeastern Illinois the event was co-sponsored by the Southeastern Illinois Heritage Foundation.

The show was a good opportunity to bring together several quilts owned by the society, normally on display at the Ratcliff and L. Haas museums. Two friendship quilts, one from West Union Church Ladies Missionary Society dated 1898, and the other from the Brownsville Methodist Episcopal Church Women's organization, dated September 13, 1922, were popular for their genealogical value. Each has hundreds of names embroidered on the quilt tops.

Lecta Hortin brought three scrap quilts made from fabrics used by the Carmi Feature Underwear factory, a large employer in the mid 20th century. Many people said they had similar quilts, or at least a bag of underwear factory scraps, in their own homes.

Barbara Karger brought in many quilts including a quilt captured by an ancestor during the Civil war. This quilt, done in a flower garden pattern in dark reds, browns and greens, was in remarkably good shape, and was taken to the quilt registration session in Grayville sponsored by the Friendship Quilters Guild. Barbara's quilts represented work done by several members of her family.

Karen Sanders, from rural Herald, sparked the event with her demonstration of carding wool and spinning. She also does knitting and crochet and teaches classes in those arts as well as basket weaving. She brought two treadle driven spinning wheels, along with a drop spindle, which looks like a child's top but creates yarn using gravity. Karen also brought a table full of finished yarns, baskets and garments.

Others who helped with the event or loaned quilts included Kathy Holloman, Bonnie Taylor, Rick Stein, Jim Pumphrey, Marge Fechtig, Nancy Lambdin, Verla Savage, Cindy Birk Conley and Mary Beck.

Over 100 people registered for the door prize of beginning quilter's supplies, and Iva Mae Morill was the winner. It is estimated that 200 people visited the museum for this event.

Many of those who attended the quilt show, especially on Sunday, took advantage of the opportunity to make leisurely visits to the second floor museum rooms and to study the Vivian Day furniture on the first floor.

Other events in the area were held at Mt. Carmel and the Living Legacy Farmstead south of town, Grayville, Flora, Olney, Hutsonville, Flat Rock and Palestine. The quilt registration program, spearheaded by the early American Museum at Mahomet, is an ongoing project and can be done via mail. Cindy Conley has quilt history forms which will accompany photos of old, unusual or significant quilts.

Robinson-Stewart House to be Featured in 2002 Calendar

Each year the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency prepares a calendar for distribution as part of their newsletter subscription. In early spring they offered to include in their calendar a view of one of the museums belonging to the White County Historical Society. A photographer from Rockford was sent to shoot an interior view of the 1814 Robinson-Stewart House museum for their 2002 Historic Illinois calendar.

Board members Rick Stein and Sue Armstrong, assisted by Eddie Nelson, spent several days in preparation for this visit. They gave special attention to the 1835 dining room and silver service since this seemed to be a natural focal point for the photo. It happened that the photographer agreed and he and his assistant spent three hours setting up the equipment and lighting to get the perfect shot.

The result is a beautiful full color photo of the table and hearth. Also featured will be an insert of a detail from the shot which will show the small silver cup that little Patty Webb carried on her 1840 stagecoach ride from Carmi to Mt. Carmel. The child was under the care of family friend Abraham Lincoln.

The White County Historical Society has ordered 500 copies of this calendar for its members and friends. They will sell for \$7 each or \$9 if mailed. The delivery is scheduled for early fall, in plenty of time for the holiday season and they will make lovely gifts. These beautiful calendars will be printed in full color on slick paper, approximately 9"x12", and will feature interior views from historic properties throughout the state.

Funds from the calendar sale will benefit the renovation of the Ratcliff Inn.

Order Blank for 2002 Calendar

Mail to:

White County Historical Society
P. O. Box 121
Carmi, IL 62821

I would like to order _____ calendar(s) for the year 2002.

{ } I will pick up my calendars at the Genealogy Library, 200 Church St., Carmi. (Cost - \$7 each)

{ } I would like to have my calendars mailed to me at the address shown below. (Cost - \$9 each)

I am enclosing my check for _____.

(signed) _____

Please mail calendars to:

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

L. Haas Museum Report

by Rick Stein

While the L. Haas Museum has been owned by the Historical Society for less than 10 years, it has become a major responsibility for the Society.

The collection of artifacts has grown every year, and even though the museum contains an immense amount of space, displaying our collection has become a challenge. When one has everything from cases of Native American artifacts to the hanging apparatus of Phil Hanna, visitors are frequently overwhelmed by the sheer number of items.

Making decisions as to how to best use our resources has become a must do project. Through the Crossroads of Illiana Heritage Tourism Demonstration Project, museum consultant Dennis Straughmatt, former director of the Wabash County Museum District, has visited the L. Haas Museum, and we hope to utilize his help to organize the museum into several self-contained exhibits. His fee is covered by a grant to the Tourism Bureau, and he has contacts with museum administration departments at Southern Illinois University and SEMO. The first step is to make some necessary repairs to the building, along with a deep cleaning, using volunteer labor where possible. Monetary contributions or offers to work are both welcome.

The museum is currently closed to visitors, but is scheduled to be reopened by Corn Day, 2001.

Ratcliff Inn Report

by Rick Stein

The White County Historical Society was one of three organizations in the southern part of Illinois to receive a 2001 Heritage Preservation grant from the IHPA. The grant will cover 60% of the needed renovations to the 1828 Ratcliff Inn, with work to begin in mid to late summer.

This work includes several steps to control moisture in the cellar, as well as repairs to the first floor walls which suffered from earlier water damage. Rusted out hot water baseboard registers and trim will be removed, to be replaced by new wood baseboards. Hot water underfloor radiators will provide invisible heat. The heart of the new heating system will be a super efficient boiler system. New ultrahigh efficiency central air conditioning will take the place of three old wall units.

Windows throughout the building will be repaired, painted and cleaned and then covered with low-e plate glass storm windows to protect the wood sashes and reduce the transmission of damaging ultraviolet rays. New layers of attic insulation will hopefully allow the Society to keep the building cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

The state grant will cover 60% of the cost of the project, estimated to be \$25,720, which means the state will pay approximately \$15,300 while the society needs to raise \$10,400. It is hoped that most of this money can be raised from donations and fund raisers, without exhausting the society's reserves. Your purchase of the 2002 Historic Illinois calendar from the Society will help raise the needed match, so please purchase several. A house tour is also planned for the spring of 2001.

Mary Smith Fay Genealogy Library
203 N. Church St. * P. O. Box 121 * Carmi, IL 62821
Phone: (629) 382-8425

As many of you may know, the Genealogy Library, located in the former Carnegie Library building, has expanded its hours of operation and is now open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. And in addition to an excellent staff of volunteers, we have hired a librarian, Pat Davis, to assist with our work load.

Pat is busy getting the library in order, opening storage boxes, going through old newspapers, updating files and putting into effect a system to shelve books. Family research is being made into books so it will be more accessible to researchers.

We have purchased shelving units from Willard Library in Evansville, IN, to be put in the basement to hold the large tax books which have been brought over from the White County Court House. These shelves will also be used for other books as our library expands.

We are selling on consignment a new book, So Grows the Tree, written by Cyril Barton describing his youth as he grew up in the Maunie area.

We will have a book on Phillips Township cemeteries ready to sell by October. We need volunteers to help read cemeteries in the other townships. Many are completed, but there are more to be done.

Genealogy is like a crazy quilt. Somehow all the little scraps of information come together to make a family!

Submitted by Lecta Hertin, Library Director

Notes from Historical Society Board Meetings
Sue Calvert, Secretary

Much of the business conducted at recent Board meetings has been covered in other articles included in this newsletter. However, some additional items which may be of interest to our readers are:

* The Board has decided not to accept any "on loan" items for the L. Haas or other museums. From now on anything given will be a gift to the Society. Items loaned prior to this will be "grandfathered" and will still be considered loans.

* The Society is grateful to Ralph Anselment who donated his time to repair the roofs at L. Haas and Robinson-Stewart House. Lawrence Martin and Rick Stein assisted. Rick has also trimmed trees at the Robinson-Stewart House and installed the new furnace and air conditioner at the Genealogy Library.

* The annual Heritage House award is scheduled to be presented in November. When the meeting date has been set, it will be announced in the Carmi Times.

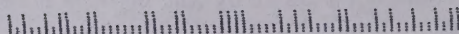
* Sam Endicott, Membership Chairman, reported that as of June 6 there were 230 paid memberships which represent 358 persons. Of that number 60% are from White County; 10% are from elsewhere in Illinois; and 30% are out of state members. All members should receive the quarterly newsletters. Any omissions should be reported to Endicott, phone (618) 382-7097, or P. O. Box 57, Carmi, IL 62821.

White County Historical Society
P.O. Box 121
Carmi, IL 62821-0121

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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OUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: James Pumphrey
Secretary: Suzanne Calvert
Directors: Sue Armstrong, Kent Boeger, Marjorie Brown, Sam Endicott, Marjorie Fechtig, Lecta Hortin,
Larry Hughes, Linda Minear, Rick Stein

Vice President: Lawrence Martin
Secretary: Cindy Conley

WHERE ARE WE?

Ratcliff Inn, 218 E. Main St., Carmi
Robinson-Stewart House, 110 S. Main Cross St., Carmi
The L. Haas Store, 219 E. Main St., Carmi
Matsel Cabin, East Robinson St., Carmi

The Mary Smith Fay Genealogy Library, at 203 N. Church St. (now open 5 days a week:
from 10:00 to 2:00, Tuesday through Saturday.)

Membership Application

Please accept my membership in the White County Historical Society. My check is enclosed for:

{ } Life.\$1000	{ } Patron.\$100	{ } Family.\$25
{ } Contributing.\$500	{ } Sustaining.\$50	{ } Individual.\$15

New _____ Renewal _____

Please mail with check to:

MEMBERSHIP
White County Historical Society
P. O. Box 57
Carmi, IL 62821

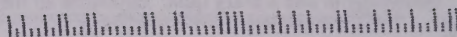
NAME _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

White County Historical Society
P.O. Box 121
Carmi, IL 62821-0121

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MEMBERSHIP
White County Historical Society
P. O. Box 57
Carmi, IL 62821

NAME _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

OLD TIMES IN WHITE.

The Early Settlers - First Flat Boat on the Wabash - First School House in the Settlement - A False Alarm - Fatal Encounter with Indians - Recollections of Carmi - A Graveyard begun at Enfield, Morgan shot and scalped by an Indian.

[A Statement Prepared by Mr. Y. LAND.]

Robert Land was a native of South Carolina, and lived in Pendleton district; left there the 1st of April, 1809, and made a crop in Hopkins county, Ky.

At the time that R. Land came to Illinois Territory, Thomas Miller lived on the Great Wabash River, where John Marshall now lives, and a man by the name of Thomas Haze brought the family of Land over the Wabash in a large canoe, and as they passed up the lake they saw Whitnell and his wife gathering cat-tails for to make a bed.

The same winter (1809) an Indian shot and killed a fine doe with a bow and arrow with a flint point, the distance of 80 yards, near Miller's. Miller was from Georgia. He afterwards moved to the Saline lick, then to Shawneetown, and then to what is now Posey county, Ind., on Big Creek, and died there. William Nettleton, of Mt. Vernon, married one of Miller's daughters, Elizabeth, I think.

In August, 1809, Robert Land and John Reed came to what is now White county to see the country, and selected places, and in September Robert Gray came back and found that Thomas Gray had selected the same place. They two went into partnership and built a cabin, and in October, 1809, Land moved his family to the cabin. Gray occupying till Land came. Gray held his share of the partnership for about 18 months, and then sold out to Land and went and settled what is now known as the Bonpas farm, and went to raising hogs on the range, and raised hogs enough to load a small flat boat and run it to New Orleans—the first flat-boat that was ever run out of the Wabash—about 1816. He then sold his possessions and went to Kentucky, his native State, and bought a farm and three negro men, and stayed there about three years, and sold the farm and negroes for \$12,000, and came back to Bonpas again and stayed here a few years, and sold and went to Kentucky again, and died at or near Louisville. Thomas Gray was a brother of James Gray, of Grayville, who laid out and sold the first lots in the town of Grayville.

James Gray came to and settled in Carmi in 1817, and lived in Carmi and sold goods for three or four years, then bought a farm of Robert McClearen, and lived on the farm several years, and then he and his brother-in-law, Robert Walden, went to Grayville.

In 1808 Peter Kuykendall settled on the east side of Big Prairie, and raised a crop of seed corn on the farm now known as the S. B. Slocumb farm, and about 1816 sold to Aaron Williams and moved to Missouri.

In 1809 Daniel McHenry settled the M. G. McHenry farm, and lived there until the war of 1812 was over, and about 1820 moved to the south end of the Prairie, and lived there until his death, which was about 1845.

In 1810 Capt. Wm. McHenry settled the place now known as Williams Ferry, on the Great Wabash river, and in 1811 moved and settled the farm now known as the Renben Tanguary farm, and in the summer of 1811, with the help of the neighbors, built a horse mill, where all the settlers ground their corn. Capt. McHenry served all through the war of 1812 as a Ranger. He was a member of the Convention in 1818 that framed the first Constitution of the State of Illinois, was several times elected to the Legislature of Illinois, and finally died at Vandalla, a member, while the Legislature was in session.

Dunlap came to what is now White county, and in the winter of 1811-12 gathered a crop of corn for R. Land, he being sick and not able to do it himself. That winter and spring was the time of the great shakes of the earth that tore New Madrid up. On the southeast side of the Big Prairie, south and west of where J. T. Parker lives, there was a crack in the earth a quarter of a mile long, big enough to run a stake down ever so far. The east side was about one foot lower than the west side. One had risen or the other sunk. In the meadows or wet prairie southeast of R. Land's the shocks of earthquake blew out thousands of piles of white sand out of the crawfish holes, from one bush to the largest wagon load.

In the spring of 1811 James Merideth settled the place that Samuel Potter now owns, and in the spring of 1812 Davis, Dunlap and others in the neighborhood, and when the war broke out all moved their families down to the Prairie for safety, and a lot of the men went back to the place of Merideth to get corn. Some of the party shot and killed a deer on the way back. Night came on, and they went, some to shelling corn, and a man by the name of Seburne to skinning the deer. While so engaged the Indians attacked them, poking their guns through the cracks of the chimney, and at the first fire shot Seburne through the bowels, mortally wounding him. All hands jumped to their feet. Hezekiah Davis squatted behind a board table at the back of the cabin and was shot, through the table, with two balls into the left side, near the nipple, and killed outright. Old man Davis received a shot through the thigh, breaking the bone. James Merideth was shot through up into the loft of the cabin and then ripped the boards on the roof and got out and jumped down. The Indians shot three or four times at him as he ran off, the blaze of their guns passing before him, and chased him some distance. He outran them and made for the settlement, which frightened the Indians. They believed that he would give the alarm. The Indians shot a dog with a bow and arrow and killed it, and stole one horse and left, after Dunlap had made his escape. Amos Howell and Wm. Merideth, when they found that the Indians had left, went to the stable and gathered up the horses and put the wounded on them, after rolling young Davis under the door, leaving him in the cellar. One of them rode behind Seburne to hold him on the horse, and thus they made for the settlement. Seburne died soon the next day. The men of the settlement went and buried young Davis and chased or followed the Indians, but could not overtake them. Richard Davis with his broken thigh was moved several times. Finally his wound got well, and he came back and settled where he resided until his death. James Merideth was taken to R. Land's and stayed there about one month, till he could be moved. He with his family went to Kentucky and stayed there until the spring of 1815, when they returned to Illinois and lived on the place where he was wounded for a number of years, then moved to Texas.

Carmi.—My first recollections of Carmi are that in the year of 1814 or spring of 1815 I was at the mill now owned by Staley. It was then owned by Lowry Hay and Leonard White. It was a small frame building, with two run of stones, grinding nothing but corn. It stood about where the present mill is, only further into the river. They had some kind of a frame dam. Lowry Hay lived in a double cabin northeast of the mill, on the bank. There were no other houses around the mill, and none where Carmi is. The town was laid out in February, 1816. In the spring of 1816 James Graham moved to Carmi built

White County Jail and Almshouse.

The White county jail and poor-house are thus described in the report of Fred. H. Wines, Secretary of the State Board of Public Charities:

JAIL.—“This jail, like that in Wayne county, occupies the whole of the upper about the same size and similarly arranged, with only two cells, stairway between, and corridor with three windows; but the cells are of boiler-iron; there is also a board partition across one end of the corridor, which admits of one cell being set apart for a female prisoner in case of need. Vestibule for jailor, at entrance, at top of stairway. The corridor for prisoners is very weak, having an ordinary floor, log ceiling, and common brick wall, lined with such boards; the gratings on the windows are light, and the windows front on the public street. When visited, there were seven prisoners in confinement—a man and wife in one cell, and five men in the other, which contains only 389 cubic feet of space, or 76 feet for each man. This is another of the worst jails in the State, and has been repeatedly condemned by the grand jury for insecurity and discomfort. A new jail is talked of, but the prospect of success in the effort to secure it is not flattering.”

ALMSHOUSE.—“Two and a half miles west of Carmi, eighty acres, nearly all cleared. The almshouse is built of logs, two stories, with frame additions on the north and south sides; nine rooms; no special provision for the insane. Twenty-seven inmates, of whom eleven were children under twelve years old. The house is too much crowded for cleanliness or health. The keeper supplies everything but medical care for fourteen and a half cents a day for each pauper kept by him. Out-door relief was granted in 1878 to the amount of three hundred dollars; paupers are required to go to the county farm.”

The Okolona (Miss.) Southern States boldly expresses southern sentiment on the State Rights question, as follows:

“The States were sovereign before the war and they are sovereign to-day. We owe our first allegiance to the State in which we live—to her laws, her authorities and her flag. If she lifted her sword to smite the General Government it would be our first duty to fly to her defense. We of the South, have no respect, no love and no reverence whatever for the ‘nation’—none. We run our local matters to suit ourselves, in direct defiance of Federal laws and Federal statutes whenever those laws and statutes come in conflict with the Constitution. Why, look at it! The General Government orders her troops to surround our ballot-boxes. They come. We tell them to stand back. They submit. They know they had better submit. Which has shown itself the master in this matter: the State or the ‘nation’?”

“Again: The General Government makes the negro a voter in violation of the Constitution, but notwithstanding the blacks have a majority in many of our counties and States, they turn up in the minority with remorseless regularity. Thereupon the cry of bull-dozing and ballot-box stuffing is heard, and the Federal Courts take cognizance of the matter. But what is done? Nothing is done. The Grand Juries do not indict, or, if they do indict, the Federal judges find it good and comfortable and safe to let the cases slip through their fingers after a farce of a trial or no trial at all. Which has shown itself the master in this matter: the State or the ‘nation’? We might further illustrate this point with many instances, but these will suffice for our purpose.”

A LINCOLN ANECDOTE.—A Lincoln anecdote is told by a correspondent of the Decatur Sun. While Junius Lincoln

DULL BORN.—Slow growth in the minds are like those that are slow in their roots develop. Men have been known to grow up like a corn, and so Smith, and so policeman, at school, in learning, it would need to his head. Backward in his row, one of Church of England was so impotent years that if children he feared he was the genius of this SELF-IMPROVEMENT.—You must get it from motive. It is best in your shall be ranked long before you as you go on in ment, the idea become more this idea of will be dearer and shall be named so; you are good so. In all right resolutely desired a better informed thoughts, both get clearer as he sees that it is how the means for better prospect way, there comes the self-improvement.

WILL HE BE?

out of ten a man cess if he does childhood. The father or mother hard work; him out at the of taking his stowed away at what was light was heavy about else; if he has until shirking his will be a failure less a miracle he be half so much and foolish par brought up to shirk his work, whether he acbe or soiled burdens has been the heavy end parents as they dismiss their cess are his, and way the work pacity.

FISH INDUSTRY.—When England something not she little realized rendered would immense and that the catch Oregon would that of Great more than 700,000. The trade in Oregon salmon most important there were put ing 48 one-pou 525. From that each year inc

and lived on the farm several years, and then he and his brother-in-law, Robert Walden, went to Grayville.

In 1808 Peter Graykendall settled on the east side of Big Prairie, and raised a crop of sod corn on the farm now known as the S. B. Slocumb farm, and about 1816 sold to Aaron Williams and moved to Missouri.

In 1809 Daniel McHenry settled the M. G. McHenry farm, and lived there until the war of 1812 was over, and about 1820 moved to the south end of the Prairie, and lived there until his death, which was about 1845.

In 1810 Capt. Wm. McHenry settled the place now known as Williams Ferry, on the Great Wabash river, and in 1811 moved and settled the farm now known as the Reuben Tanquary farm, and in the summer of 1811, with the help of the neighbors, built a horse mill, where all the settlers ground their corn. Capt. McHenry served all through the war of 1812 as a Ranger. He was a member of the Convention in 1818 that framed the first Constitution of the State of Illinois,

and was several times elected to the Legislature of Illinois, and finally died at Vandallia, a member, while the Legislature was in session.

Henry Jones came to Illinois in October, 1809, and settled on the Pond east of Daniel McHenry, where he lived until his death.

James Garrison came to Illinois in October, 1809, and settled west of the Little Wabash river, opposite the place known as David Burrell's Mill. When the war of 1812 broke out, he left there and came back into the fork and bought out Badberry's improvement, now known as Elm, and lived there until his death. Jones and Garrison were both natives of South Carolina.

Benjamin Mobley came to Illinois from Kentucky in 1810, and settled the quarter section east of R. Land, and lived there until 1813 or '14, then sold to Joseph Pomeroy and moved to the Pond settlement below New Haven, and died there. Mobley came down Green river and the Ohio and up the Wabash to what is now known as New Haven, in a pirogue. At the falls of the Little Wabash then lived a man by the name of Lisenberry, in an Indian hut covered with bark.

Hugh Collins, Joseph Lane and Rollin Lane, natives of Tennessee, came to Illinois in the fall of 1811, and settled the place now known as the Oliver Wilson farm, and lived there until about 1816 or '17, and sold to Walter Garner. When the war of 1812 broke out, Collins with others moved their families to R. Land's for safety. Collins in day time went to his improvement to work his corn. While hoeing he would stand or lay his gun by or on a stump. One day he had laid his gun on a stump and hoed corn around until he had lost all thought of his gun, until he espied, as he thought, an Indian taking sight at him from behind a stump. The first thought was personal safety, to run for his life, which he did; but it soon occurred to him it was his own gun, which was the fact. Collins was as true a soldier as ever carried a gun, having been raised among the Cherokee Indians; but the joke was too good to be kept, and he told it.

John Hanna, in 1810, came and settled on the southwest corner of the Big Prairie. In 1812 he built a block-house and lived in it all through the war. He was a Methodist. At his house was the first preaching, and continued to be a preaching place as long as he lived. During the war men went to church equipped with gun, tomahawk and knife on Sundays as well as any other day. During preaching they would stack their guns at some convenient place, so that if alarmed they could jump to their arms. (Hanna was originally from Pennsylvania, last from Kentucky.)

The first school house built in the neighborhood was built in 1811, three hundred yards west of Hanna's. The teacher was a man by the name of George Crab. The house had no fire to it and had no floor in it. The fire was built in the middle of the house, the smoke passing up through the roof.

In the fall of 1811 Richard Davis and

Davis and chased and followed the Indians, but could not overtake them. Richards moved several times. Finally his wound got well, and he came back and settled on the south side of French Creek, where he resided until his death. James Meredith was taken to R. Land's and stayed there about one month, till he could be moved. He with his family went to Kentucky and stayed there until the spring of 1815, when they returned to Illinois and lived on the place where he was wounded for a number of years, then moved to Texas.

CARMI.—My first recollections of Carmi are that in the year of 1814 or spring of 1815 I was at the mill now owned by Staley. It was then owned by Lowry Hay and Leonard White. It was a small frame building, with two run of stones, grinding nothing but corn. It stood about where the present mill is, only further into the river. They had some kind of a frame dam. Lowry Hay lived in a double cabin northeast of the mill, on the bank. There were no other houses around the mill, and none where Carmi is. The town was laid out in February, 1816. In the spring of 1816 James Graham moved to Carmi built the house known as the R. S. Graham property, and established a ferry right where the bridge now is.

James Ratcliffe was first clerk, and built a cabin on the lot where T. K. Wilson now lives, and he built a store where George Staley lives, which was kept by George Hargraves. This was the first store in Carmi. About the same time Leonard White moved up from the Saline Lick and built the house occupied by Mrs. Patrick and some other houses. He built the Ready house.

James Gray came in 1816 or '17 and lived in Ratcliffe's store, the back end of it. He built a cabin on what is now known as the McCoy property, and sold goods. Dr. Stewart came about the first, and lived over by Graham's somewhere. Dr. Shannon came in about 1818 and built the house now occupied by Miss Crow and others.

The Court House was built near the public well, a frame house, one story. It blew down. They then held court in John Craw's house, being that where R. F. Stewart now lives.

The jail was where John D. Martin lives, a log jail, with the stray pen near it, in which they always had their fights.

Morgan was killed near Enfield in the spring of 1815. He was grubbing near where the Junction is, and was shot and scalped by an Indian going north. The Indian was pursued for some distance, but not overtaken. Morgan was buried in the graveyard at Enfield on the hill, by a persimmon tree.

BLOCK HOUSES IN WHITE COUNTY.—Capt. Wm. McHenry (Martin G.'s father) built a block house in the summer of 1812, on the Tanquary land, N. E. Sec. 16, 5, 10. He had built in 1811 a horse mill at same place.

On the Starkey place a block house was built by Hardy Council and others in 1813.

Another block house on east side of Prairie, near the red house, was built at same time by Aaron Williams.

Another, a little south of George Hanna's house, was built by John Hanna.

Robert Land built another about 200 yards east of Matt Land's house. John Slocumb built one east of the Tom Logan farm.

A company of mounted rangers, U. S. troops or volunteers, were here during the war of 1812, say from 1812 to '14, to protect the people, and had their headquarters in the Prairie. We never heard of peace being made until late in March. The first of March there was a draft here, so many folks had come here from Kentucky and other places.

The last legislature having appropriated \$600 for the purpose, the governor appointed Col. Ferris Foreman of Vandalia to go to Washington and transcribe the records relating to the services of Illinois men who belonged to the United States army and navy during the Mexican and Black Hawk wars. Col. Foreman commanded the third Illinois Infantry in the Mexican war.

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Prof. Thomas, State Entomologist, reports to the State Board of Agriculture, at Springfield, that a new insect is now injuring the corn in some parts of the State. It is of the species of the striped cucumber bug, or flea beetle. It is one-eighth of an inch long, is of a pale yellow color, with three darker stripes. It is known to have been destructive to corn in the Middle States, but had not been largely observed nor closely studied here. The remedy is the application of plaster containing a small portion of paris green, and this should be applied when the dew is on, or shortly after a rain.

The editor of the Marshall Messenger proposes to see the law for prevention of cruelty to animals enforced. He says: "The next man that brings a team into town and leaves it hitched up in the sun all day without water or feed, will be arrested and fined for cruelty to animals. If you must fill your blasted hides with mean whisky you shall not abuse your poor faithful horse or horses. So take notice."

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INTEREST

WHITE SOLDIER TAKES A COLORED BRIDE, MARRIED HERE ON MONDAY

Refused License in Evansville, Persistent Couple Comes to Illinois Where License is Secured. Married in Barber Shop.

When Ira Layton, claiming to be from Asbury Park, New Jersey, applied for license to marry Nettie Morris, of Columbus, Ga., at Evansville Monday, he was refused, since his bride-to-be was colored. The couple came on to Carmi the same day and secured the necessary papers and sought Rev. W. J. Smith, pastor of the East Carmi M. E. church who performed the ceremony. After the minister had officiated, the couple took a stroll about the city after which they boarded a train bound for Evansville.

Married in Barber Shop.

The wedding took place in the barber shop of Rev. Smith on Smith street near Third. It was at this place of business that the minister was approached by the woman. She seemed to take the lead in the preliminaries. The nuptial knot was soon tied. Rev. Smith is becoming known as the "Marrying Parson", since he united in marriage a few months ago a couple that applied at his home before daylight and asked that they be married "then and there". They were married on the porch at his home.

There were a few witnesses to the ceremony Monday, a number of men seeing the couple alight from a train guessing their mission. Layton gave his age as 27 years, while the woman stated she was 23. At the office of county clerk Martin, Layton is said to have admitted that he was white. The laws of Indiana forbids whites and blacks marrying, hence their

failure to procure license there at Evansville.

At the clerk's office, Layton seemed nervous but the woman was apparently anxious that all the details be given and did not hesitate to volunteer information. Layton however vouchsafed the information that they had been refused the license in Evansville, and it was at this juncture that the fact that he was a white man was stated. This however, was suspected before, and when the papers were filled out they were made out accordingly.

To Live in Evansville.

Layton is employed at Evansville. He was evidently an overseas ex-service man since he wore not only the regulation overcoat of the American soldier, but another insignia indicating that he had won laurels on the battlefield.

The couple attracted considerable attention while in the city and they were evidently aware of this, since they remained in one place but a short time, spending the time walking about until a few minutes before the arrival of the train which was to take them back to Evansville.

Attaches of the clerk's office stated they did not recall having ever issued a license to white and colored before here, and the records for some time back show none.

"The law does not prohibit the issuing of license to white and colored", said Clerk Matthew Martin, and all I saw to do was to issue the license when the application was made."

RE-OPENING OF CHURCH AT BIG PRAIRIE SUNDAY

Two Big Programs Rendered During
The Day of Special Service.
Many Improvements Made.

Sunday, November 27th, was a very auspicious one at the Big Prairie M. E. church when the reopening services were conducted. The improvements at the church have been made

MANY HAD LIGHTS TRIMMED READY FOR SUNDAY NIGHT

When City Power Plant Repairs Were
Finished and Light Furnished.
Some Church Services.

There was to have been special services at the Pentecostal church on Sunday and there were many who had their lamps trimmed and burning, they anticipating no light from

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



TWIN DAUGHTERS ARRIVE AT WM. HARTWICK'S HOME

Shipley Hill Residence Visited by
Many Interested in the Little
Ones Who Are Named.

William Hartwick and wife, residing on Shipley Hill, have been entertaining in a most impromptu manner during the past several days, in honor of their daughters, Misses Frances Margaret and Nancy Ellen. These little daughters which blessed the Hartwick home Saturday morning by their advent as well as the mother are reported as doing well.

Mr. Hartwick, who is a well known farmer, has reported that the babies have been named to the apparent satisfaction of all and that he is arranging for some special Christmas gifts. Many of the neighbors and relatives have been calling at the Hartwick home where the youngsters seem to be in unusually good humor. One of them weighed six and one-half pounds while the other tipped

OPERATION IS PERFORMED FARMER'S FOOT TAKEN OFF

William Botsch North of City a Sufferer From Affliction for Years
Now in Evansville.

William Botsch, well known farmer residing four miles north of Carmi, underwent an operation at the Walker hospital, Evansville a few days ago in which the right foot was amputated just above the ankle.

Mr. Botsch, who had been afflicted for years, was accompanied by Dr. J. Niess of this city who assisted in the operation. This is said to have been successful and the condition of Mr. Botsch is such as to cause relatives and friends to expect a speedy recovery. The affliction which was of long standing, terminated, the physicians and surgeons state, in the necessity of the amputation of the foot to prevent further developments.

INTERESTING PROGRAM

FOOTBALL SEASON CLOSING LOCAL ATHLETES ACTIVE

Carmi High School Will Be on The
Map When the Season Closes as
A Bright Spot 'He Said.

With the closing of the football season, the Carmi Township High school athletes and fans will turn their attention to basketball. The season to be ushered in soon. It is the intention to have a team in the field that will be second to none if possible.

It is also the intention to have a number of visiting teams here and four games are being planned for the immediate future, or the opening of the season. These teams will be good ones and indications are that the season will be started off with much activity, since this is the season hailed with unusual delight by so many of the fans.

Carmi has been holding a record for cleanliness and this season promises to be replete with good games.

YOUNG THIEF CAUGHT IN INDIANA ATTEMPTED TO ROB LOCAL STORE

Returned For Grip After Having Made Haul, When Officers
Nabbed Him. Confessed, Sentenced and is in Prison.

Taylor Wright, said to have been born in Indiana, was caught in the act of attempting to rob the store on Main street, Carmi, last night. He was apprehended by officers and was sentenced to prison at Mt. Vernon, Ind., where he and his pal are supposed to have been from here. Wright was given an indefinite sentence of from two to 10 years for burglary.

It is presumed that the two took turn about doing the work and were caught by the vigilance of local officers. The robbery would have been successful in this city, since the supports had been removed from three sides of the store door and another moment would have enabled the thieves to have gained entrance.

Had it not been for a grip left by Wright, his apprehension would perhaps not have been effected. For it was after the robbery that the grip was found and this was watched by officers believing the owner, who was suspected of the robbery, would re-

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CLOSING SERMON SUNDAY BY WELL KNOWN MINISTER

Rev. Lytle of Christian Church Will
Attend Regional Congress at
Louisville Later.

Rev. J. A. Lytle, pastor of the Christian church, who resigned some time ago, will deliver his farewell sermon on next Sunday at the regular service. A successor has not as yet been chosen.

Next week Rev. Lytle will attend the Regional Congress at Louisville, Ky. He will also visit the churches which will be held in Terre Haute, Ind., and other cities. He will later return to Carmi for a short time, later leaving for Chicago where he expects to make his future home. Rev. Lytle has been pastor of the local church for about one

NOTED TRAVELER RECEPTION AND MEETING

Dr. Andrew M. Brodie, Author and
Minister, Will Be in Carmi For
Two Important Events.

Dr. Andrew M. Brodie, author, preacher and traveler who has been interested in the study of social problems and their solution for many years, and has traveled throughout the United States giving lectures on the subject will be in Carmi on Saturday afternoon and evening.

He has been in Carmi in the past and has been in the city library. From 2 till 4 o'clock, there will be a reception in the main reception of the city library. In the evening at 8 o'clock, a

Regular Baptist Church of Christ at St. Prairie

Names of Church Members		
Daniel Gray	Dead	1
Robert L. Gray		2
Susan Gray		3
William Taylor		4
Lucy Murphy		5
Lucy Simpson	Dead	6
William Simpson	Dead	7
Nancy Simpson		8
Jefferson Murphy	Dismissed by letter	9
Margaret Murphy	Dismissed by letter	10
Nancy Murphy	Dismissed by letter	11
Leathan Martin		12
Elizabeth Martin		13
Lewis Martin	Dismissed by letter	14
Moneta Martin	Dismissed by letter	15
Daniel Simpson	Dismissed by letter	16
Nancy Simpson	Dismissed by letter	17
Lucy Ward	Excluded	18
Flora Ward	Excluded	19
Wathene Ward		20
Isaac Ward		21
Sarah W. Ward		22
Ephraim Ward	Dismissed by letter	23
Margaret Ward	Dismissed by letter	24
Elizabeth Ward	Dismissed by letter	25
Martin Ward		26
Wm. Ward	now Gray	27
Charles A. Gray		28
William Jones		29
Mary J. Taylor		30
Moses McGroves		31

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Elizabeth Martin		13
James Martin	Dismissed by letter	14
Moneta Martin	Dismissed by letter	15
Daniel Simpson	Dismissed by letter	16
Nancy Simpson	Dismissed by letter	17
Lucy Wood	Excluded	18
Florry Hardy	Excluded	19
Esther Hardy		20
Isaac Canale		21
Sarah W. Canale		22
Epheam Friend	Dismissed by letter	23
Margaret McGraw	Discontinued	24
Elizabeth Bowman	Discontinued	25
Mother Attebery		26
Polly Woodhams	now Gray	27
Charles A. Gray		28
William Tombs		29
Mary J. Taylor		30
Moses McGraw		31

A HISTORY OF THE LITTLE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY

(BURNT PRAIRIE), BURNT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, WHITE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS AND IT'S EARLY ESTABLISHMENT.

BY IVAN PHILLIPS
1992-1993

PAGE (1)

IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF BURNT PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP, WHITE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, IN THE N.W. AND S.W. QUARTERS OF SECTION 24, TOWN 3 SOUTH, RANGE 9 EAST, BEGINNING AT THE S.E. CORNER OF THE N.E. QUARTER OF SECTION 24 TOWN 3 RANGE 9 EAST AND RUNNING NORTH 50 FEET. TEN POLES TO STAKE, THEN SOUTH 52 DEGREES AND 20 LINKS, IT BEING THE N. W. CORNER OF LOT 126 OF SAID TOWNSHIP, IS THE LITTLE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY (BURNT PRAIRIE).

THE PLOT OF GROUND WHICH IS LIBERTY, WAS FIRST NAMED LIBERTY, BY JEHEIL H. REEVES IN 1818, WHO LIVED HERE, BUT THE ORIGINAL VILLAGE WAS NEVER SURVEYED AND LAID OUT UNTIL 1830.

IN 1830 JOHN THOMAS SURVEYED AND RECORDED THE ORIGINAL PLAT IN THE COUNTY RECORDS. IT WAS NOTARIZED BY WILLIAM THOMAS, NOTARY PUBLIC.

FIVE ADDITIONS WERE ADDED TO THIS PLAT:

IN 1889 THE FIRST HUTCHINS ADDITION

IN 1891 THE PUCKETT'S ADDITION

IN 1891 THE SECOND HUTCHINS ADDITIONS

IN 1899 ODELL ADDITION

IN 1903 FLEMING ADDITION

IN 1903 THE ORIGINAL PLAT WITH THESE ADDITION WAS RECORDED IN THE COUNTY RECORDS.

IN 1905 GEORGE BROWN SURVEYED THE ENTIRE VILLAGE AND DIVIDED IT INTO LOTS AND GAVE THEM THEIR NUMBERS.

THE FRONT LOTS ARE 68 FEET WIDE AND 120 FEET DEEP NUMBERED FROM THE N. W. CORNER OF THE ORIGINAL PLAT TO STREET #2 (WHICH TODAY IS SECOND STREET. THE LOTS NUMBERED ARE: 1-9, 39-42, 43-51, 76-84, 85-93, 118-126.

THE BALANCE OF THE LOTS IN THE ORIGINAL PLAT ARE 66 FEET WIDE AND 120 FEET DEEP. THE STREETS ARE ALL 50 FEET WIDE EXCEPT MAIN STREET, WHICH IS 72 FEET WIDE. ONE ALLEY IS 16 1/2 WIDE. (THE ALLEY BETWEEN OUR LOTS AND WALKER'S LOTS).

PEOPLE LIVED ON THIS PLOT OF GROUND BEFORE IT WAS SURVEYED AS THE TOWN OF LIBERTY.

THE FIRST HOUSE BUILT IN LIBERTY WAS BY FREDERICH WILLIAMS, WHO ALSO HAD THE FIRST GENERAL STORE. HE AND HIS BROTHER, JEREMIAH, BUILD THE FIRST MILL WHICH WAS POWERED BY HORSES.

JACK RUSSELL BUILT THE FIRST WAGON SHOP.

ANDREW SMITH OPERATED THE FIRST BLACKSMITH SHOP IN THE VILLAGE. THE FIRST SHOEMAKER WAS WILLIAM ALLISON. HOLMES AND YOUNG BUILD THE FIRST STEAM MILL. THEY MADE CORNMEAL AND THREE GRADES OF FLOUR: A, B, & C. AND BRANDED THE FLOUR SACKS WITH CROSSED FLAGS, AND GAVE THEM THE NAME OF LIBERTY. THIS WAS BEFORE 1830.

MR. DAVIS OPENED THE FIRST STORE IN LIBERTY AFTER IT WAS SURVEYED AND RECORDED AS A VILLAGE IN 1830.

IN 1857 MR. JAMES MORRISON WITH HIS BROTHER, PETER, CAME TO LIBERTY TO LIVE. JAMES MORRISON FORMED A PARTNERSHIP WITH MR. DAVIS IN THE STORE AND TOOK OVER THE OPERATION TO RUN IT

BY HIMSELF WHEN MR. DAVIS DIED IN 1864.

HE NOW NAMED THE BUSINESS THE "MORRISON STORE" WHICH HE CONTINUED TO RUN UNTIL HIS DAUGHTER, VEDA, MARRIED WALTER WRIGHT IN SEPTEMBER, 1911, AND HE DEEDED IT TO THEM WHO CONTINUED TO RUN IT UNTIL WALTER SOLD IT TO MR. LEWIS IN 1970. MR. LEWIS AUCTIONED OFF THE CONTENTS AND SOLD THE BUILDING TO THE MASONIC LODGE IN 1976.

JOHN HAEFELE CAME TO AMERICA FROM GERMANY IN 1852 AND ESTABLISHED A CIGAR MANUFACTURING PLANT IN THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY. AT THAT TIME, THERE WERE ONLY THREE HOUSES IN THE VILLAGE. HE STARTED HIS GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORE IN 1859 AND RAN IT UNTIL HIS DEATH, WHEN HIS SON C. E. HAEFELE TOOK POSSESSION IN EARLY 1900. HE SOLD IT TO J. W. SNYDER WHO RAN IT FOR A FEW YEARS. WHILE MR. SNYDER OWNED IT HE HAD A ROOM BUILT ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE BUILDING AND STARTED A MOVING PICTURE THEATER WHICH SHOWED SILENT FILMS.

I CAN REMEMBER AN INTERESTING EVENT WHICH HAPPENED WHILE HE HAD THE MOVING PICTURE THEATER.

MARY FLEMING, THE DAUGHTER OF WILL AND ORA FLEMING, HAD A PARTY AND INVITED THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY. AFTER THE PARTY WAS OVER SHE DIVIDED THE GROUP INTO BOY AND GIRL PAIRS AND THEY DECIDED TO GO TO THE THEATER. AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, MY PARTNER WAS ISABELLE WALTERS. WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE THEATER DOOR, I BOUGHT ISABELLE A TICKET TO THE SHOW, BUT DID NOT GO IN WITH HER. THAT WAS THE ONLY AND LAST TIME I EVER SAW HER.

MR. C. E. HAEFELE SAID HIS FATHER, JOHN HAEFELE, SAID THE ONLY CLEARED SPOT IN THE VILLAGE WAS WHERE MY HOUSE IS TODAY. HE ALSO TOLD ME AN INTERESTING STORY OF THE PLACE WHERE THE HOUSE IS, THAT THERE WAS A SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND PEOPLE FROM THE COMMUNITY AND VILLAGE WOULD BRING THEIR HOGS AND CATTLE HERE TO BE BUTCHERED, PUT ON OX CARTS, AND HAULED THEM TO GRAYVILLE, ILLINOIS, TO BE PUT ON BARGES AND SENT DOWN THE WABASH, OHIO, AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS, TO NEW ORLEANS AND OTHER SOUTHERN CITIES.

THERE IS A WELL AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE HOUSE WHICH IS THIRTY SIX FEET DEEP. THE WATER FROM THIS WELL WAS USED IN THE SLAUGHTERING BUSINESS AND SERVED AS A WATER SUPPLY FOR ALL THE ENTIRE NEIGHBORHOOD AS THIS WAS THE ONLY WELL IN THE AREA. THIS IS A PECULIAR DUG WELL. THE FIRST 20 FEET IS ABOUT EIGHT FEET ACROSS AND LOWER 16 FEET WAS DUG IN SOLID ROCK WHICH IS ABOUT 3 FEET ACROSS. HE SAID THEY COULD DRAW THE WATER OUT OF TOP 20 FEET BUT THE BOTTOM 16 FEET WAS NEVER DRAWN DRY AND THE TOP PART WOULD FILL UP AGAIN OVERNIGHT. THE PECULIAR THING IS THAT IT IS SOFT WATER USABLE FOR ANY PURPOSE.

AS THE THEATER WAS NOT A SUCCESS, THE STORE BUILDING WAS SOLD AND IT CHANGED HANDS MANY TIMES UNTIL THE BANK OF GRAYVILLE RECEIVED IT IN A MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE. IN THE TIME IT WAS CHANGING OWNERSHIP, TOM BRADSHAW IN 1923 PUT HARDWOOD FLOORING IN THE MAIN BUILDING AND INSTALLED A ROLLER COASTER SKATING RINK, WHICH DID NOT LAST LONG.

MR. WILLIAM HAMPTON, PRESIDENT OF THE GRAYVILLE BANK, TO GET HIS MONEY OWED BY THE PURCHASER SOLD IT IN A BANKRUPTCY

SALE TO EZEKIEL VAUGHT IN 1936. AFTER EZEKIEL BOUGHT THE BUILDING WHICH WAS LOCATED ON LOT 52, IT WAS USED AS A RESTAURANT, CHURCH HOUSE, AND FINALLY A STORAGE HOUSE FOR GRAIN UNTIL IT BECAME INSUCH POOR CONDITION THAT IT WAS NO LONGER USABLE.

AFTER THE DEATH OF EZEKIEL IT PASSED TO HIS WIFE, MARIE, AND AT HER DEATH IT WENT TO HARRY VAUGHT, HER SON AND FAMILY IN 1966. AT HARRY'S DEATH, DARCY (HIS WIFE) DEEDED IT TO DAVID VAUGHT. DAVID HAD THE BUILDING TORN DOWN IN 1971 AND SOLD LOT 52 TO CARROLL DOZIER.

THE THEATER BUILDING BUILT ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE MAIN STORE BUILDING WAS USED FIRST AS A MOTION PICTURE THEATER, POST OFFICE AND BARBERSHOP BEFORE IT WAS TORN OFF.

THE FIRST MARRIAGE IN LIBERTY IN WAS ADAM FILES AND DICEY WILLIAMS. THEIR MARIAGE WAS AN ELOPEMENT. THEY LEFT ON HORSEBACK, HER RIDING BEHIND HIM. THE GIRL'S FATHER THREATENED TO KILL THE MAN BUT HE COULD NEVER FIND HIM.

DR. ALEX SMITH WAS THE FIRST CHILD BORN IN LIBERTY. LATER HE BECAME THE FIRST DOCTOR. WHEN HE CAME TO LIBERTY IN 1865 HE WAS NOT A MEDICAL DOCTOR BUT A VETERINARIAN BUT LATER TOOK UP HUMAN PRACTICE.

IN 1866 DR. WESLEY PHILLIPS AND DR. PLEASANT PUCKETT STARTED THEIR PRACTICE IN LIBERTY AFTER GETTING OUT OF SERVICE IN THE CIVIL WAR. DR. WESTLEY PHILLIPS (MY GRANDFATHER LIVED AND PRACTICED MEDICINE IN THE HOUSE WHERE JAMES RALPH CASH NOW LIVES.

MY SON, MARTIN PHILLIPS, HAS HIS OFFICE CHAIR IN WHICH HE SAT WHILE TREATING PATIENTS AND LISTENING TO THEIR EXPLANATION OF THEIR PROBLEMS.

DR. PUCKETT LIVED AND STARTED HIS PRACTICE IN THE HOUSE WHICH I NOW LIVE WHEN IT WAS ACROSS THE STREET WHERE MRS. DELMAR LAMPP LIVES. SHE HAS PASSED AWAY SINCE I STARTED THIS ACCOUNT.

THE BANK IN LIBERTY WAS FOUNDED AROUND 1900 BY GEORGE BROWN WHO SOLD SHARES IN THE INSTITUTION TO OBTAIN CAPITAL TO OPEN THE BANK. NOVEMBER 5, 1923, IT WAS ROBBED. I UNDERSTAND THEY GOT \$26,000.00, WHICH WAS A LARGE SUM OF MONEY AT THAT TIME. IN THE DAYS OF THE DEPRESSION, IN THE EARLY THIRTIES, THE BANK WAS CLOSED AND MOVED THE ASSETS TO THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN CARMi.

THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM IN LIBERTY WAS BUILT BETWEEN 1900-1905, I COULD NOT FIND THE EXACT DATE. ED HARGRAVE BECAME THE FIRST OPERATOR. THE SYSTEM WAS SOLD TO GENERAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN 1965.

IN 1866, AUNT MARY VAUGHT AND HER HUSBAND, BOUGHT THE HOTEL AND REMODELED IT AND RENTED OVERNIGHT ROOMS AND BREAKFAST FOR TWENTY-FIVE CENTS. A SALESMAN COULD COME TO LIBERTY FROM MILL SHOALS ONE DAY, STAY OVERNIGHT AT THE HOTEL AND LEAVE THE NEXT DAY, ALL FOR SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS. RUMOR HAS IT THAT ABRAHAM LINCOLN STAYED ONE NIGHT AT THE HOTEL WHEN HE WAS CAMPAIGNING FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

WHEN AUNT MARY VAUGHT DIED, JOSIE SOLD THE HOTEL BUILDING AND HER MILLINERY SHOP TO OWEN POLLARD, WHO TORE OFF THE SECOND STORY OF THE HOTEL BUILDING AND MADE A ONE STORY

HOUSE. WHEN HE MOVED TO GRAYVILLE HE SOLD THE HOUSE TO DEAN WEST. IT IS THE HOUSE WHERE RICK WEST NOW LIVES.

OWEN TORE DOWN THE MILLINERY SHOP BUILDING AND USED THE LUMBER TO BUILD A BUILDING ON THE CORNER OF THE LOT, WHICH HE USED AS A RESTAURANT. SINCE OWEN LEFT LIBERTY IT HAS BEEN USED BY DIFFERENT PEOPLE AS A RESTAURANT AND TODAY IS OWNED BY LOUIS RAY JORDAN.

I CAN WELL REMEMBER WHEN I WAS A SMALL BOY GOING TO SCHOOL, OF A WELL DRILLED IN FRONT OF THIS BUILDING THAT HE BUILT. WHEN OWEN BUILT THE BUILDING HE FILLED IN THE WELL.

THIS WAS A PUBLIC WELL AND THERE WAS A WATERING TROUGH BESIDE THE WELL AND A BUCKET TO DRAW WATER FROM THE WELL FOR FARMERS TO WATER THEIR HORSES WHEN THEY CAME TO TOWN.

THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILDING WAS BUILT IN 1889 AND WAS DEDICATED THE FIRST SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER 1889. REVEREND CHASE DELIVERED THE DEDICATORY SERMON. REVEREND FELIX TROUSDALE WAS THE FIRST PASTOR.

THE LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH WAS ORGANIZED IN 1913 AND BUILT IN 1914. IT WAS DEDICATED SECOND SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1914. BROTHER THROGMORTON DELIVERED THE DEDICATORY SERMON AND A DINNER WAS HELD IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT IN MEMORY OF THE OCCASION. MR. M.L. LENIN WAS THE FIRST PASTOR OF THE CHURCH.

WHEN THE BAPTIST WAS BUILT THERE WAS A BAPTISTERY BUILT UNDER THE FRONT PLATFORM FOR USE IN BAPTISM OF NEW MEMBERS.

WE HAD A FAMILY BY THE NAME OF RATHWICK LIVING IN LIBERTY. MR RATHWICK WAS A SHOE COBBLER AND MADE SHOES FOR PEOPLE. MRS RATHWICK WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO BE BAPTIZED IN THE BAPTISTERY.

THEY HAD A GRANDSON LIVING WITH THEM, WHO WAS MUCH INTERESTED IN SEEING HIS GRANDMOTHER BAPTIZED.

HE ASKED HOW THEY WERE GOING TO BAPTIZE HER, IF ONE PERSON WOULD STAND ON EACH SIDE OF THE BAPTISTERY AND TAKE HER BY THE HEELS AND DIP HER UP AND DOWN IN THE WATER.

THE MASONIC LODGE WAS ORGANIZED OCTOBER 3, 1971 AS LODGE 668 AND THEY TOOK A SIXTY YEAR LEASE ON THE UPSTAIRS ROOMS OF MR. MORRISON'S STORE.

THE EASTERN STAR LODGE WAS FOUNDED IN 1902.

THE FIRST FUNERAL TO BE HELD IN LIBERTY WAS HELD IN THE SANCTUARY OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN 1890 AND CONDUCTED BY REVEREND McLIN.

AROUND 1900 ED MARTIN STARTED HIS HARDWARE STORE AND HAD A ROOM BUILT ON THE EAST SIDE OF HIS BUILDING WHICH HOUSED THE BANK.

MR. MARTIN RAN THIS STORE UNTIL HIS DEATH, WHEN HIS SON-IN-LAW, DUTCH OVERBEE TOOK POSSESSION AND RAN IT UNTIL 1958 WHEN HE SOLD THE BUILDING TO BOB MUSGRAVE WHO TORE IT DOWN AND BUILT MUSGRAVE SERVICE STATION WHICH HAS GONE OUT OF BUSINESS.

BETWEEN 1903-1904 WALT CASH PUT IN A SHOE SHOP AND BROOM MANUFACTURING SHOP IN HIS HOME AND OPERATED IT UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1936.

THE FIRST POST OFFICE IN LIBERTY WAS FOUNDED IN 1828 UNDER THE NAME OF BURNT PRAIRIE. RUMOR HAS IT THAT THE NAME OF

BURNT PRAIRIE WAS USED INSTEAD OF LIBERTY BECAUSE THERE WAS ALREADY A LIBERTY POST OFFICE IN ILLINOIS, BUT ACCORDING TO THE U.S. POSTAL ARCHIVES, WASHINGTON, D. C. THIS IS A MISTAKE BECAUSE THE POST OFFICE AT LIBERTY, ILLINOIS, (ADAMS COUNTY) WAS NOT FOUNDED UNTIL 1832.

I HAVE SEARCHED ARCHIVES OF DIFFERENT HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONS AND NONE HAVE ANY RECORD WHY IT WAS NAMED BURNT PRAIRIE INSTEAD OF LIBERTY (WHITE COUNTY), UNLESS IT WAS BECAUSE LIBERTY WAS LOCATED IN A PRAIRIE REGION AND EVERY FALL THE INDIANS WOULD SET FIRE TO THE GRASS AND WEEDS TO BURN THEM OFF SO AS TO HAVE PASTURE FOR THEIR HORSES AND OPEN COUNTRY FOR THEIR HUNTING IN THE WINTER.

THE FIRST POST MASTER FOR THE POST OFFICE IN LIBERTY (BURNT PRAIRIE) WAS FREDERICK WILMAN

FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE POST MASTERS OF LIBERTY:

NAMES:	TITLES:	DATE APPOINTED:
FREDERICK WILMAN	POSTMASTER	08-14-1828
JEHIEL H. REEVES	POSTMASTER	05-30-1835
ABRAHAM VOUGHT	POSTMASTER	07--3-1841
JEHIEL H. REEVES	POSTMASTER	01-05-1844
JAMES MORRISON	POSTMASTER	02-05-1857
BALDY L DAVIS	POSTMASTER	07-14-1862
JOHN HAEFELE	POSTMASTER	02-04-1873
BALDY L.DAVIS	POSTMASTER	06-26-1877
OSCAR R CROSS	POSTMASTER	12-19-1878
JOHN HAEFELE	POSTMASTER	01-19-1880
JOHN B. HUTCHINS	POSTMASTER	09-09-1885
ADAM JOHNSON	POSTMASTER	04-17-1889
ROBERT H. PUCKETT	POSTMASTER	10-02-1893
ADAM JOHNSON	POSTMASTER	06-29-1897
JOHN A. VAUGHAN	POSTMASTER	07-29-1914
MARTIN D. HUNSINGER	ACTING POSTMASTER	02-01-1940
MARTIN D. HUNSINGER	POSTMASTER	09-97-1940
LEWIS E. JONES	ACTING POSTMASTER	01-22-1945
MARTIN D. HUNSINGER	POSTMASTER	02-20-1946
MRS. MERCIE E. JUENGER	ACTING POSTMASTER	12-31-1951
MRS. MERCIE E. JUENGER	POSTMASTER	01-14-1954
SHIRLEY BLACK	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	03-31-1972
W. A. POTAROFF	POSTMASTER	05-02-1974
LINDA S. SMOTHERS	OFFICER-IN-CHARGE	11-02-1984
LINDA S. SMOTHERS	POSTMASTER	03-30-1985

IN 1836 THE LIBERTY MANUEL LABOR SEMINARY SCHOOL WAS BUILT WHICH WAS A RELIGIOUS SCHOOL. THE FIRST TEACHER TO TEACH IN LIBERTY WAS PHILNEA COOK.

SOMETIME LATER THIS SCHOOL WAS CHANGED TO AN ACADEMY AND JAMES MORRISON WAS THE LAST TEACHER TO TEACH IN THE ACADEMY. WHEN THE ACADEMY CLOSED, A SUBSCRIPTION SCHOOL WAS STARTED AND RAN UNTIL ABOUT 1880-1885. I COULDN'T FIND THE EXACT DATE WHEN THE GRADE SCHOOL STARTED. THE BUILDING WHICH WAS BUILT IS THE PRESENT SCHOOL HOUSE WHICH IS STILL STANDING VACANT. THE SCHOOL HOUSED ALL GRADES FROM ONE INCLUDING EIGHTH. THE EARLY GRADE SCHOOL WAS KNOWN FOR IT'S REPUTATION

THAT NO TEACHER COULD TEACH IN THE UPPER GRADES THE ENTIRE YEAR, AS THE LARGE BOYS WOULD FORCE HIM TO RESIGN BEFORE THE TERM WAS OUT.

MR. E. A. NALE AND MY FATHER, MARTIN H. PHILLIPS, WHO WERE DIRECTORS AT THIS TIME, TOLD ME A MAN WHO WAS SMALL IN STATURE PUT IN A BID FOR THE SCHOOL. HE WAS TOLD OF THE TROUBLE THEY HAD AND HE SAID IF HE COULDN'T CONTROL THE SCHOOL HE WOULD RESIGN. HE WAS HIRED AND REMAINED AS TEACHER DURING THE ENTIRE YEAR. THESE BOYS WERE TAUGHT TO OBEY AUTHORITY.

THE SCHOOL, AT THIS TIME, TAUGHT ALL THE SUBJECTS WHICH INCLUDED READING, WRITING, GRAMMAR, ARITHMETIC, SPELLING, GEOGRAPHY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

A PUPIL COULD TAKE AN EXAMINATION ON THESE SUBJECTS AT THE CLOSE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AND IF HE PASSED IT, HE WOULD RECEIVE A TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE WHICH PERMITTED HIM TO TEACH.

I WAS ASKED IF I WANTED TO TAKE THIS EXAMINATION BUT I REFUSED AS I DID NOT HAVE AN IDEA THAT I WOULD EVER BE A SCHOOL TEACHER.

IN MY EARLY DAYS OF SCHOOL THE WINTERS WERE MUCH COLDER THAN THEY ARE NOW AND THE SNOWFALL MUCH HEAVIER. IT SOMETIMES WOULD SNOW FOR DAYS AND GENERALLY COVERED THE GROUND A LOT OF THE WINTER. I CAN RECALL OF WALKING TO SCHOOL AND GOING OVER THE TOP OF FENCES AS THE SNOW WAS DRIFTED SO DEEP.

EVERYDAY WE TOOK A CLUB WITH US TO BE USED TO KILL RABBITS WHICH WOULD BURY IN THE SNOW AND KILL THEM WITH OUR CLUBS WHEN WE DUG THEM OUT BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T RUN VERY FAST AS THEY WOULD SINK IN THE SNOW.

ACROSS FROM THE SCHOOLYARD WAS A BLACKSMITH SHOP OPERATED BY RUBE LOFTON.

ONE DAY A FARMER CAME TO TOWN IN HIS WAGON AND THE TEAM OF HORSES BECAME SCARED, TURNED THE WAGON OVER AND RAN DOWN THE STREET PAST THE SCHOOL YARD, DRAGGING THE NECKYoke AND PART OF THE WAGON TONGUE. LUCKILY, THERE WERE NO CHILDREN IN THE FRONT YARD OF THE SCHOOL GROUND PLAYING.

MEN FROM THE BLACKSMITH SHOP STOPPED THE HORSES BEFORE ANYONE WAS INJURED.

I CAN RECALL THE SWING IN MR. J. A. VAUGHAN'S YARD, WHICH WE PASSED EVERYDAY GOING TO AND COMING HOME FROM SCHOOL. THESE TREES ARE STILL STANDING AND ARE OVER 100 YEARS OLD.

MR. VAUGHAN FASTENED ROPES IN THE TOPS OF THE TREES AND MADE A SWING BETWEEN THEM. I HAVE SEEN CHILDREN BEING SWUNG ALMOST AS HIGH AS THE TREE TOPS. LUCKILY, I DO NOT REMEMBER OF ANYONE GETTING HURT ON THESE SWINGS.

THERE WAS ALWAYS ONE NIGHT OF THE YEAR THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE HATED TO SEE COME, THAT WAS HALLOWEEN NIGHT. INSTEAD OF TRICK OR TREAT CUSTOM OF TODAY, WAS THE PRANKS PLAYED ON ALMOST EVERY HOUSEHOLD UNLESS YOU STAYED UP ALL NIGHT AND GUARDED YOUR PROPERTY.

THE OLDER BOYS, YOUNG MEN AND GIRLS OF THE TOWN AND COMMUNITY WOULD COME TO TOWN AND MAKE A TOUR TURNING OVER OUT-DOOR TOILETS.

ONE NIGHT WHEN THEY CAME TO BEN SAVAGE'S HOME THEY FOUND

HIM INSIDE THE TOILET, AS HE HAD SAID THAT THEY WOULD NOT TURN HIS TOILET OVER THAT NIGHT, AS HE WOULD STAY IN IT. THEY ASKED HIM TO COME OUT AND WHEN HE REFUSED, THEY TURNED IN OVER WITH HIM IN IT. WHEN ALL THE TOILETS WERE TURNED OVER THEY DECIDED TO TAKE MR. J. R. MORRISON'S DELIVERY WAGON AND PULL IT TO HIS HOUSE AND PUT THE TONGUE INTO THE HOUSE TROUGH THE FRONT DOOR. WHEN THEY GOT IT AS FAR AS IT WOULD GO, THEY DECIDED TO LEAVE IT TO DO MORE MEANNESS. THEY DIDN'T KNOW IT BUT MR. MORRISON LET IT BE KNOWN THAT HE WAS IN THE GROUP WITH THEM AND THAT THEY COULD TAKE THE WAGON BACK WHERE THEY FOUND IT, AS THEY HAD HAD THEIR FUN.

LATER THAT NIGHT THEY TOOK THE WAGON TO MR. C. E. HAEFELE'S STORE BUILDING, DISASSEMBLED IT AND TOOK IT PIECE BY PIECE AND REASSEMBLED IT ON THE ROOF OF THE STORE. WHEN MORNING CAME THE WAGON WAS SEEN ON THE STORE ROOF. OF COURSE THE BOYS DID NOT TAKE IT DOWN.

THE SCHOOL OF LIBERTY HAS HAD SOME VERY STRICT TEACHERS AT TIMES. TO NAME A FEW WERE: HERBERT WILSON, WHOSE EYESIGHT WAS VERY BAD, BUT HIS HEARING WAS VERY GOOD. AS THE SAYING GOES, HE COULD HEAR A PIN DROP ANYWHERE IN THE ROOM. HE WAS ONE OF THOSE TEACHERS WHO BELIEVED IN USING THE ROD. AFTER HIM CAME LAWRENCE CRALLEY WHO ALSO WAS A TEACHER WHO DID NOT SPARE THE ROD. THESE TEACHERS DID NOT RESPECT SIZE, AGE OR GENDER.

I CAN RECALL THE LAST YEAR I INTENDED TO GO TO GRADE SCHOOL DURING THE WINTER AFTER FALL WORK WAS DONE, BUT AFTER ONE EVENT, I CHANGED MY MIND.

MY BROTHER, CLAUDE PHILLIPS, AND MARTIN FUNKHOUSER WERE THROWING ROCKS INTO THE GIRLS TOILET DURING THE NOON HOUR WHILE THEY WERE INSIDE. MR. CRALLEY SAW THEM AND WENT TO THE OUTSIDE COAL HOUSE, PULLED OFF A BOARD AND THAT WAS THE LAST TIME THAT ROCK THROWING EVER HAPPENED.

AFTER THAT INCIDENT, I DECIDED I DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL ANYMORE.

ONE TEACHER I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS IN THE EIGHTH GRADE WAS ERNEST PRICE. HE TAUGHT DURING WORLD WAR I. HE AND HIS WIFE, VEDA (PRICE) PARKER WERE THE TEACHERS OF THE UPPER GRADES.

KIS (AS HE WAS CALLED) PLAYED THE TRUMPET AND VEDA PLAYED THE PIANO. EVERY MORNING WHEN SCHOOL ASSEMBLED WE SANG SONGS.

ERNEST'S FATHER WAS A SCHOOL TEACHER AND HE HAD HIS SON, ERNEST IN SCHOOL, AND ONE DAY THE BOY DID SOMETHING THAT DISPLEASED HIS FATHER. MR. PRICE CAUGHT THE BOY BY THE SHIRT AND SEAT OF HIS PANTS AND THREW HIM OVER THE STOVEPIPE AND CAUGHT HIM AS HE CAME DOWN ON THE OTHER SIDE. ERNEST WOULD TELL US STORIES OF HIS EARLY LIFE AND WE NEVER FORGOT THEM. THE TEACHER THAT HAD MORE INFLUENCE ON MY LIFE THAN ANY OTHER TEACHER IN GRADE SCHOOL WAS CHARLEY RODGERS. HE WAS THE ONE WHO PERSUADED ME TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE. AT THE TIME HE TAUGHT IN GRADE EIGHT THERE WAS A GROUP OF LARGE BOYS AND GIRLS IN HIS ROOM. FOR SHAME, WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF HIS KIND LEADERSHIP.

I CAN RECALL WELL ONE INCIDENT WHICH HAPPENED ONE DAY AT

NOON WHILE HE WAS GONE TO DINNER. FOUR OF THEE LARGE GIRLS AND BOYS REMOVED OUR SINGLE SEATS AND MADE TWO ROWS OF SEATS LINED DOWN THE CENTER OF THE ROOM IN FRONT OF THE TEACHER'S DESK, WITH A BOY AND GIRL SITTING SIDE BY SIDE. WHEN SCHOOL RESUMED AFTER DINNER, MR. RODGERS CAME INTO THE ROOM, EYED THE SITUATION BUT DID NOT SAY A WORD AND STARTED SCHOOL AS IF NOTHING HAD EVER HAPPENED.

WE BOYS AND GIRLS BECAME SO ASHAMED OF OURSELVES THAT WHEN NOON CAME THE NEXT DAY, WE REPLACED THE SEATS LIKE THEY WERE ORIGINALLY.

IN 1920 A TWO YEAR SCHOOL ORGANIZED WITH REV. SCROGGS AS AS PRINCIPAL.

IN 1927 THE TWO YEAR SCHOOL WAS CHANGED INTO A THREE YEAR SCHOOL WITH ALTA MILLER AS PRINCIPAL.

IN 1943 THE HIGH SCHOOL MOVED TO MILL SHOALS TO FORM A FOUR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL.

IN 1949 THE MILL SHOALS BURNT PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL MOVED TO THE MILLS PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING WHICH HAD BEEN BUILT BETWEEN MILLSHOALS AND BURNT PRAIRIE. LATER THIS SCHOOL WAS COMBINED WITH THE FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY HIGHSCHOOL.

THE GRADE SCHOOL IN LIBERTY CONTINUED UNTIL 1968 WHEN IT COMBINED WITH NEW HOPE AND MILL SHOALS.

IN 1897, R.S. AND CAL MORRISON BOUGHT THE MILL AND BEGAN OPERATING UNDER THE NAME OF "MORRISON BROS" AND "JUST RIGHT" TRADE NAME. R.S. AND CAL MORRISON WERE PROBABLY DESCENDENTS OF PETER MORRISON. THEY WERE TRAINED BY HIM TO OPERATE THE MILL.

THE MILL WAS PURCHASED FROM PERKINS AND MARTIN IN ENFIELD, ILLINOIS. PERKINS AND MARTIN DISMANTLED IT PIECE BY PIECE, TIMBER BY TIMBER, MARKING EACH PIECE AS IT WAS REMOVED AND HAULED INTO LIBERTY ON OX CARTS AND REBUILT AT IT'S PRESENT LOCATION.

THE OLD TIMBERS WERE DIFFICULT TO MOVE IN THOSE DAYS. THEY WERE HAND HEWNED LOGS, SOME TWELVE FEET LONG AND SOME TWELVE INCHES IN DIAMETER AND SIXTEEN FEET LONG. EACH TIMBER WAS NOTCHED TO BE PUT TOGETHER WITH WOODEN PEGS.

WHILE MORRISONS OPERATED THE MILL MANY CHANGES WERE MADE. THE OLD STEAM BOILER, WHICH WAS INSTALLED IN 1880 IS NOW BEING USED AS A RADIATOR FOR A DIESEL ENGINE. WHICH WAS INSTALLED BY MORRISON. STEAM FOR THE STEAM ENGINE WAS GENERATED BY BURNING WOOD. BY INSTALLING A TWO CYLINDER DIESEL ENGINE IT ENDED THE TROUBLE OF STARTING THE WOOD BURNING BOILER AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING.

IN 1913 R. S. MORRISON DIED AND LEFT THE MILL TO CAL, RAY AND MARTIN. AFTER CAL DIED, RAY AND MARTIN CONTINUED IT'S OPERATION UNTIL 1963 WHEN THEY RETIRED.

RAY DIED IN 1966 AND THE MILL WAS SOLD TO JUST RIGHT ENTERPRISES INC. WHO CONTINUED MAKING CORNMEAL UNDER THE TRADE NAME "JUST RIGHT" WITH THE "OLD MORRISON MILL" NAMEPRINTED ON THE BAGS AS HAD BEEN THE PRACTICE FOR MANY DECADES.

THE BURSTONES USED IN THE MEAL MAKING PROCESS FROM THE BEGINNING WERE STILL IN USE.

THESE STONES WERE MADE OF FLINT AND VERY HEAVY. THEY WERE SHIPPED FROM FRANCE. THEY HAD TO BE CLEANED AND SHARPENED EVERY TEN TO FIFTEEN DAYS WHEN IN CONSTANCE USE OF AN EIGHT HOUR DAY.

AT NOON YOU COULD HEAR THE MILL WHISTLE BLOWING. IT COULD BE HEARD FOR MANY MILES.

THE MILL MADE CORN MEAL AND PACKAGED IT IN TWO, FIVE, AND TEN POUND PACKAGES, AND WAS SOLD OVER A LARGE AREA WITHIN A TEN MILE RADIUS.

AFTER THE DEATH AND BANKRUPTCY OF HENRY WALLACE THE "OLD MILL" WAS SOLD TO FAYE POLLARD, DAN AND JOHN MASTERON.

IT HAD BEEN IDLE SO LONG AND BOYS HAD BROKEN OUT MANY WINDOWS AND HORSES HAD WINTERED IN THE BASEMENT, IT WAS IN A VERY BAD CONDITION AS IT HAD NOT BEEN OVERSEEN FOR A FEW YEARS.

THEY HAVE REPAIRED THE WINDOWS, TORN DOWN SOME OF THE ORIGINAL BUILDINGS AND TODAY, IT STANDS BOARDED UP AS A RELIC OF WHAT IT HAD BEEN.

IN THE EARLY 1900'S MR. J. R. MORRISON BUILT A BUILDING ON MILL STREET WHICH WAS USED BY DUTCH GARRETT AS A CHICKEN PLUCKING PLANT. HE BOUGHT CHICKENS THE YEAR AROUND AND RABBITS DURING THE WINTER. THE CHICKENS WERE PLUCKED OF THEIR FEATHERS, AND ALONG WITH THE RABBITS, (WHICH WERE KILLED IN THE WINTER TIME,) WERE PACKED IN BARRELS AND SENT TO MILL SHOALS TO BE SENT TO THE B & O RAILROAD TO DIFFERENT PLACES. THE BARRELS WERE PACKED WITH ICE TO KEEP THE MEAT FROM SPOILING.

MR. FENDER SAVAGE WHO WAS RUNNING A DELIVERY WAGON FOR J. R. MORRISON WOULD HAUL THE BARRELS TO THE TRAIN AT MILL SHOALS TO BE SHIPPED TO DIFFER CITIES. IN WINTER THE ROAD TO MILL SHOALS WAS SO MUDDY THAT HE HAD TO USE FOUR HORSES TO PULL THE WAGON. HE ALSO DELIVERED THE MAIL TO BURNT PRAIRIE AS IT CAME TO MILL SHOALS ON THE TRAIN AND WAS DELIVERED TWO TIMES A DAY. HE WOULD HAUL PASSENGERS TO THE TRAIN TO GO TO TOWN TO DO THEIR SHOPPING AND OTHER BUSINESS THEY HAD. THE FARE TO MILL SHOALS FROM BURNT PRAIRIE WAS TWENTY-FIVE CENTS. TODAY OUR MAIL IS DELIVERED FROM FAIRFIELD BY CARS INSTEAD OF HORSES.

EVERYWINTER WHEN COLD WEATHER CAME MR. J. R. MORRISON WOULD HIRE MEN TO CUT ICE FROM THE "OLD MORRISON MILL POND". THIS ICE WAS CUT INTO BLOCKS ABOUT TWELVE INCHES SQUARE AND SOMETIMES AS MUCH AS EIGHT TO TEN INCHES THICK. THIS ICE WAS STORED IN HIS BUILDING AND COVERED WITH SAWDUST TO BE USED IN PACKING THE CHICKENS AND RABBITS IN THE BARRELS. PEOPLE COULD BUY ICE IN THE SUMMERTIME TO MAKE ICE CREAM.

THIS OLD MILLPOND WAS USED BY THE PEOPLE IN WINTERTIME FOR A SKATING RINK.

AROUND 1913 CHARLES SMITH OPERATED A SLAUGHTER HOUSE NEXT TO HIS HOME, BUTCHERING HOGS AND CATTLE FOR SEVERAL YEAR. SOMETIME LATER JAMES CLARK AND KEO KIESER BOUGHT THE BUILDING AND TORE IT DOWN. SOME OF THE METAL ROOFING WAS USED TO COVER LEO KIESER'S BARN ON THE PROPERTY WHERE RUBY JEFFERS NOW LIVES.

THE BLOCK BUILDING WHICH STANDS ON THE CORNER OF MAIN

AND SECOND STREET, ON THE SOUTH SIDE, WHICH IS NOW COVERED WITH DARK RED ALUMINUM SIDING WAS BUILT BY RAYMOND VAUGHAN AND USED AS A GARAGE. LATER IT WAS SOLD TO GRAHAM CALKINS WHO RAN A GROCERY STORE FOR MANY YEARS. BUSTER (AS HE WAS CALLED) WOULD HAVE MOVING PICTURES SHOWS IN THE SUMMER, USING THE OUTSIDE WALL ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE BUILDING, AS A PROJECTION SCREEN.

MR. CALKIN SOLD THE STORE BUILDING, HIS HOUSE AND LOTS TO STEVEN WHETSTONE, WHO RAN THE GROCERY STORE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME AND THEN SOLD THE STORE BUILDING TO CHARLES AMMERMAN AND BILL D. MUSGRAVE TO BE USED AS A TRUCKING TERMINAL. THEY PARTITIONED THE BUILDING INTO SEVERAL OFFICES. IN TIME, CHARLES FRENCH CAME INTO POSSESSION OF THE BUILDING AND I BOUGHT IT FROM MR. FRENCH.

WHERE THIS BUILDING STANDS WAS, AT ONE TIME, A PART OF A BLOCK OF BUILDINGS WHICH RAN EAST TO END OF LOT 74. THESE BUILDINGS, AT ONE TIME, HOUSED A RESTAURANT BY EZEKIEL VAUGHT, DR. HOPKINS' MEDICAL OFFICE AND HOME, A BARBER SHOP AND A GARAGE. THESE BUILDINGS ALL BURNED AND IS WHEN RAYMOND VAUGHAN BUILT THE PRESENT BUILDING.

IN THE WEST END OF THE VILLAGE, EAST OF MORRISON STORE WAS A BLOCK OF BUILDINGS WHICH HOUSED A CREAM TESTING STATION, HARNESS SHOP WHERE MR. ENNIS MADE HARNESS AND A SMALL GROCERY STORE RUN BY HERMAN HUNSINGER.

THESE BUILDINGS WERE TORN DOWN AND SOME OF THE LUMBER WAS USED TO BUILD A BUILDING ON EAST SIDE OF LOT 74 FOR HERMAN HUNSINGER A STORE. THIS BUILDING WAS LATER USED AS A FILLING STATION, GARAGE, RESTAURANT AND FINALLY AS A POOL HALL UNTIL MY SON, MARTIN PHILLIPS AND HIS WIFE JEANNE (POLLARD) PHILLIPS BOUGHT IT AND HAD IT TOWN DOWN.

ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET ACROSS FROM THE HOTEL, WAS J. A. VAUGHAN'S CLOTHING STORE, HART PUCKETT'S FUNERAL PARLOR, GROCERY STORE, AND A CREAM TESTING STATION. THE POST OFFICE WAS LOCATED IN J.A VAUGHAN'S CLOTHING STORE. THESE BUILDINGS ALL BURNED. THE POST OFFICE WAS MOVED TO JOSIE VAUGHT'S MILLENARY SHOP AND FROM THERE TO THE THEATER BUILDING WHERE IT REMAINED UNTIL ALLEN JUENGER BUILT THE BUILDING IN 1961 WHERE IT IS STILL LOCATED.

IN MARCH, 1928, THE CITIZENS OF THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY ASKED THE COUNTY COURT OF WHITE COUNTY TO MAKE THE VILLAGE AN INCORPORATED VILLAGE, WHICH WAS GRANTED AND THE VILLAGE BECAME THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF LIBERTY.

AS THE TOWN WAS LIBERTY AND THE POST OFFICE BURNT PRAIRIE, THIS CAUSED MUCH CONFUSION. IN OCTOBER, 1964, THE PEOPLE IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE TOWN BOARD (OF WHICH I WAS A MEMBER AT THAT TIME) REQUESTED OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THAT THE NAME OF THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY BE CHANGED TO BURT PRAIRIE TO CO-INSIDE WITH THE NAME OF THE POST OFFICE. ON FEBRUARY, 1965, THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY BECAME OFFICIALLY, BURNT PRAIRIE.

EVEN THOUGH THE NAME HAS BEEN CHANGED, THE DEEDS TO ALL PROPERTY SAY, VILLAGE OF LIBERTY INSTEAD OF BURNT PRAIRIE.

IN 1936 WAYNE WHITE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATION

WAS FORMED AND BURNT PRAIRIE GETS IT'S ELECTRICITY FROM THAT SOURCE.

IN 1955, THE BLACKTOP ROAD, THE FIRST COUNTY ROAD, WAS BUILT FROM MILL SHOALS THRU BURNT PRAIRIE, WHICH NOW GIVES US A GOOD ROAD TO GRAYVILLE BECAUSE LATER GRAYVILLE BUILT A HARD ROAD WEST AND TWO ROADS ARE CONNECTED BY A GOOD, WELL KEPT GRAVEL ROAD.

WHEN THE BLACK TOP ROAD WAS BUILT TO LIBERTY (BURNT PRAIRIE) THE TOWN HELD A STREET CELEBRATION IN MEMORY OF THE OPENING OF THE ROAD. SQUARE DANCING WAS HELD IN THE STREET UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT AND EVERYONE WENT HOME HAPPY AS WE WERE NOT NOW MAROONED BY DEEP, MUDDY ROADS. MR WILL CALKINS SAID THAT THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE THAN HE HAD EVER SEEN AND HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE.

WHEN ROUTE # 64 WAS BUILT, A CUT-OFF FROM ROUTE 64 WAS MADE TO BURNT PRAIRIE. WHICH GIVES US AN ENTRANCE TO ROUTE 64 WHICH RUNS ONE FOURTH MILE NORTH OF TOWN.

IN 1990, THE VILLAGE OF BURNT PRAIRIE INSTALLED A WATER SYSTEM, GETTING IT'S WATER FROM CARM, ILLINOIS. WE ARE IN NEED OF A SEWAGE SYSTEM WHICH SOMEDAY MAY BE BUILT.

EVEN THOUGH MY WIFE AND I ARE LIVING IN KNOB NOSTER, MO. BURNT PRAIRIE IS OUR HOME AND WE STILL OWN OUR HOME IN BURNT PRAIRIE.

I STILL SAY "IT'S NOT A BAD PLACE TO LIVE WITH IT'S FRIENDLY PEOPLE AND NEIGHBORS."

MY WIFE (BEULAH GREER) AND I WERE MARRIED IN 1924. THERE ARE ONLY THREE OF THE OLD CITIZENS LEFT IN THE VILLAGE SINCE THAT TIME. ME, MY WIFE AND SUE WHETSTONE. SUE WHETSTONE IS AT A NURSING HOME AT GRAYVILLE AT THIS TIME.

THIS ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY OF LIBERTY (BURNT PRAIRIE) IS AS NEAR CORRECT AS I COULD REMEMBER AND FIND INFORMATION. THE INFORMATION HAS COME FROM MANY SOURCES. I HAVE RECALLED SOME OF IT MYSELF AND HAVE COLLECTED A LARGE PART OF IT FROM OTHER SOURCES, OLDER CITIZENS OF THE VILLAGE AND SURROUNDING AREAS. I SHALL NAME A FEW PLACES WHERE I HAVE RECEIVED MY INFORMATION: HISTORY OF WHITE COUNTY, COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, CARM, ILLINOIS, REGIONAL OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, FAIRFIELD, ILL. SECRETARY OF STATE, SPRINGFIELD, ILL. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, SPRINGFIELD, ILL. ARCHIVES OF U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, WASHINGTON D. C. CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS AT WESTON, VIRGINIA AND BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS AND OTHER PLACES I DO NOT REMEMBER ALL OF THEM.

I WISH TO THANK ALL WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION.

MANY CHANGES HAVE OCCURRED IN THE VILLAGE SINCE I WAS BORN 89 YEARS AGO.

AS TO INDUSTRIES IN THE VILLAGE, I CAN RECALL THE TIME WHEN WE HAD MR. MORRISONS'S AND MR. HAEFELE'S GENERAL STORE, TO GROCERIES STORES, HERMAN HUNSINGER AND WILL CALKIN, AND EGG PACKING STORE AND CREAM TESTING STATION RUN BY LEO KIESER, A GARAGE RUN BY RAYMOND VAUGHAN , THREE FILLING STATIONS.

BOB MUSGRAVE, JOHN VAUGHT, (SOLD TO JIM CARTER IN 1948) AND IVAN COALE, THREE DOCTORS, DR. GOODRICH, DR. FUNKHOUSER, AND DR. CYPRUS S. KEAGY, A HARNESS SHOP BY MR. ENNIS WHO REPAIRED AND MADE HARNESS, A HARDWARE STORE BY ED MARTIN, A BANK WHOSE CASHIERS WERE CAL FLEMING AND RAY BROWN, A BUTCHERING SHOP BY CHARLES SMITH, A HOTEL BY AUNT MARY VAUGHT, MILLINERY SHOP BY JOSIE VAUGHT, WHO SOLD WOMEN'S HATS, TWO CHURCHES, THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND THE LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH, THE OLD MORRISON MILL, CLOTHING STORE BY J. A. VAUGHAN, AN UNDERTAKING PARLOR BY HART PUCKETT, TELEPHONE SYSTEM, BLACKSMITH SHOP BY ADAM SHERIDAN, A CARPENTER, CARSON ANDERSON, A POST OFFICE, SCHOOL, A PIANO MUSIC TEACHER, VEDA WRIGHT, A RESTAURANT BY EZEKIEL VAUGHT, AND A JOHN DEER IMPLEMENT AGENCY, WHICH SOLD SMALL TOOLS, WAGONS AND BUGGIES. THESE BUSINESSES WERE ALL HERE AT THE SAME TIME IN THE VILLAGE.

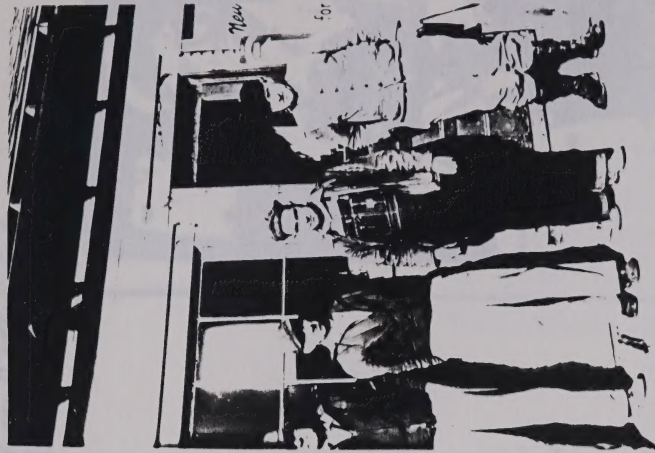
THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY AT THE TIME ALL THESE ESTABLISHED WERE HERE, HAD A LARGER POPULATION THAN IT DOES NOW. MANY OF THE BUILDINGS WHICH HOUSED THESE BUSINESSES HAVE BEEN TORN DOWN, BURNED OR REPLACED, IN SOME CASES, BY NEW BUILDINGS. MANY OF THE EARLY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS ARE GONE, BUT WE STILL HAVE A GARAGE BY ROCHE SMOTHERS, A POST OFFICE WHOSE POSTMASTER IS LINDA SMOTHERS AND SOME OTHER SMALL INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSES.

STORES, SCHOOL, DOCTORS, TELEPHONE SYSTEM, SERVICE STATIONS, RESTAURANT, BANK, HOTEL, CARPENTERS, BLACKSMITH SHOP, AND BUTCHER SHOP HAVE ALL GONE TO THE NEIGHBORING CITIES TO PURSUE THEIR BUSINESS AS GOOD ROADS WERE BUILT AND PEOPLE COULD GO FARTHER AWAY FOR THESE SERVICES AND COULD MEET OLD FRIENDS FOR HAPPY REUNIONS.

WRITTEN BY IVAN PHILLIPS IN 1992-1993

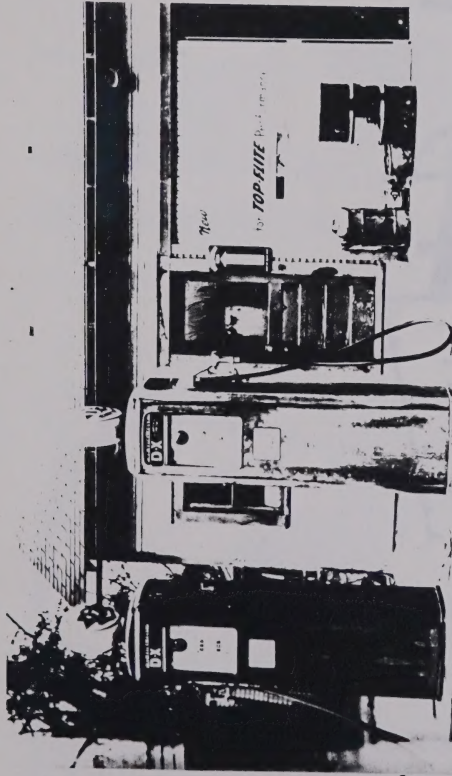


Capt. Smith
 a
 Burnt Prairie Resident



Left to Right
 Eugene Puntney - Ivan Coale
 George Perry - Ed Kisser

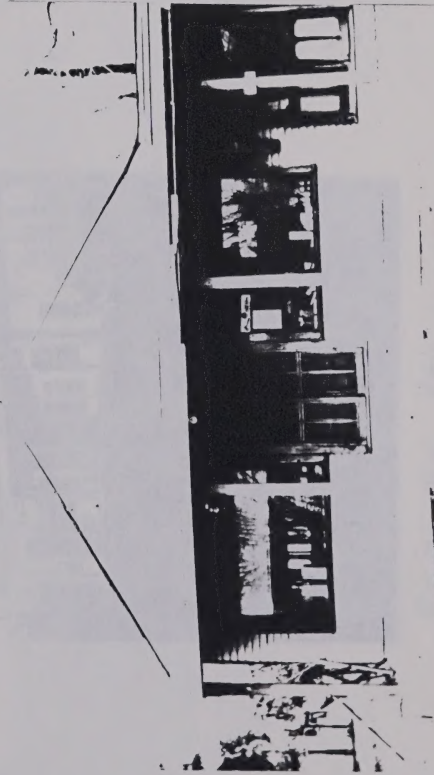
Photos taken in 1947



Irwin Coale's DX
Service Station



Irwin Coale
and Shipping



Ed Martin Hardware

Pictures taken in 1947



Walter Wright Store
 Picture taken in 1947



Ed Hagdele Store
 (also a skating rink)
 Picture taken in 1947

Pictures taken 1947



ANDREW AND ETHEL
SMITH HOME
JOE MARTIN FIRST
LIVED HERE



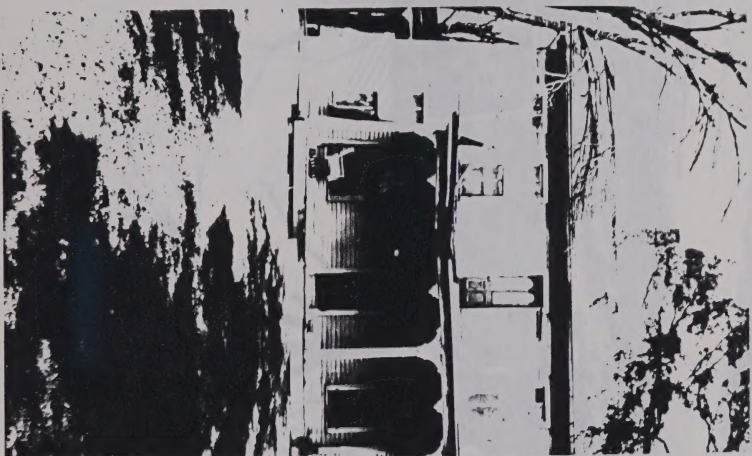
DALE BUCKLEY
HOME
LATER
EVERET EWING



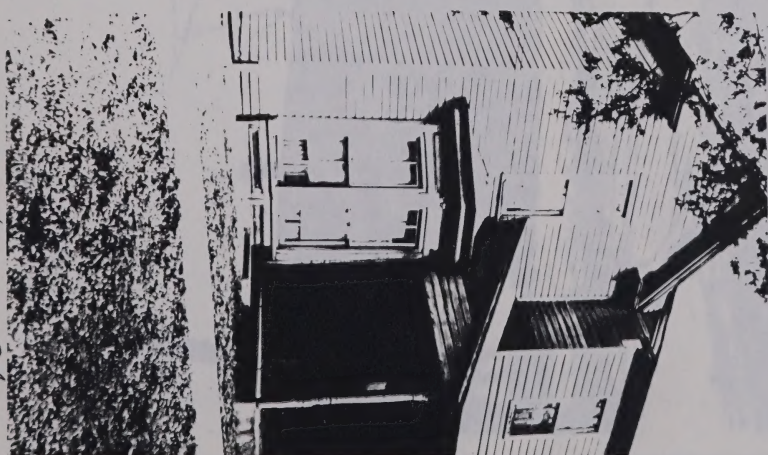
J. R. MORRISON
HOME



John Curtis Home

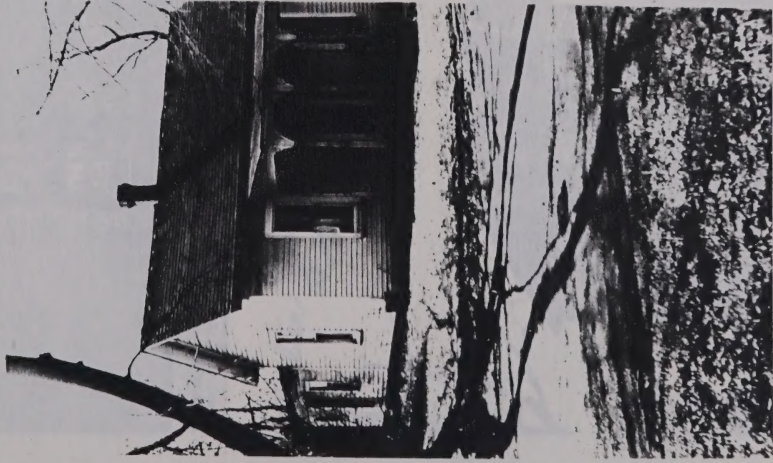


*Ed Martin Home
Pictures taken in 1947*



Charlie Smith Home

Pictures taken in 1947



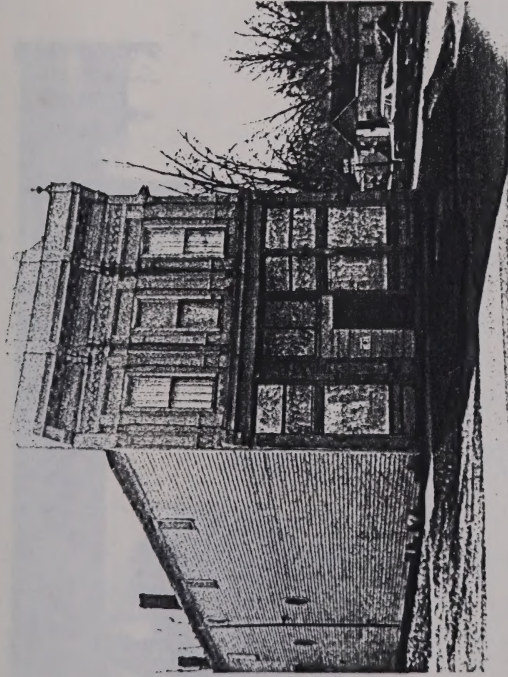
Will & Esther Smith Home



Walter Cash Home
Pictures taken in 1947



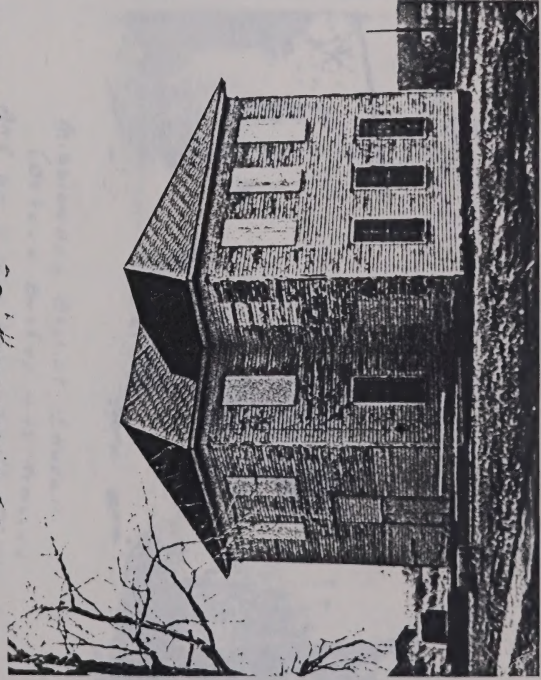
Walter & Veda Wright Home



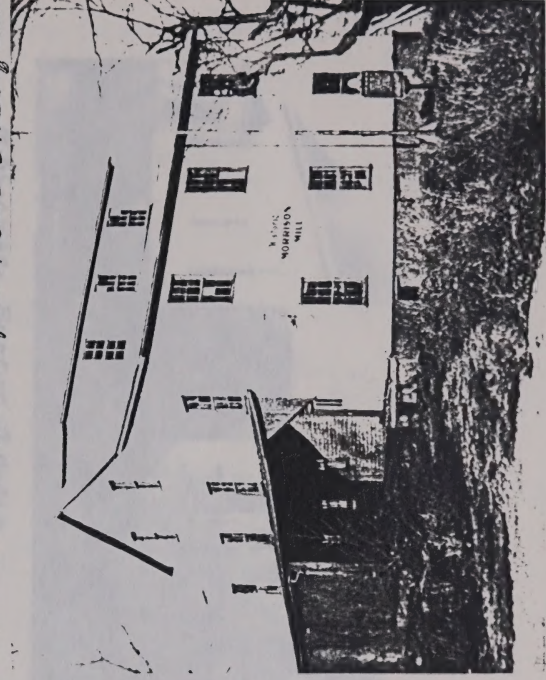
Walter Wright Stow Bldg
Formerly, James Morrison



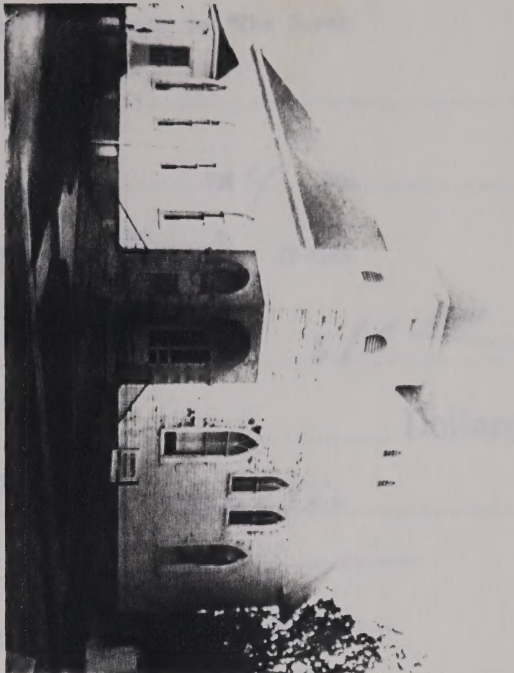
Alvo Masonic Hall 668 AF & AM
and Burnt Prairie Chapter # 500 order of Eastern Star



Burnt Prairie School Bldg Grade 1-8
High School 1-3 yrs



Morrison Bros. Mill



MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Picture taken in 1983



MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 (Before Belfry was removed
 And an over home still standing)



Burnside & Presbyterian Church



Another view of Burnside & Presbyterian Church

The checks withdrawals were written for the father-in-law of a sister of Ivan Phillips, the writer of this book. They were drawn on "The Burnt Prairie Bank" while in operation.

No. _____ Burnt Prairie, Ill., 9/26 1914 No. _____

SEP 26 1914

The Burnt Prairie Bank 70-1199

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Self \$ 10⁰⁰

Ten Dollars

Balus. Carter

THE COCKRUM PTO. CO., OAKLAND CITY, IND.

Burnt Prairie, Ill. Nov 9 1925 No. _____

BURNT PRAIRIE STATE BANK 70-1199

PAY TO THE ORDER OF C A Frencherson \$ 4²³

Four and $\frac{23}{100}$ DOLLARS

FOR Coal Balus Carter

Burnt Prairie, Ill. Jan 28 1926 No. _____

BURNT PRAIRIE STATE BANK 70-1199

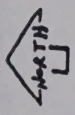
N.P. 70-50

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Sears Roebuck & Co \$ 2⁷⁵₁₀₀

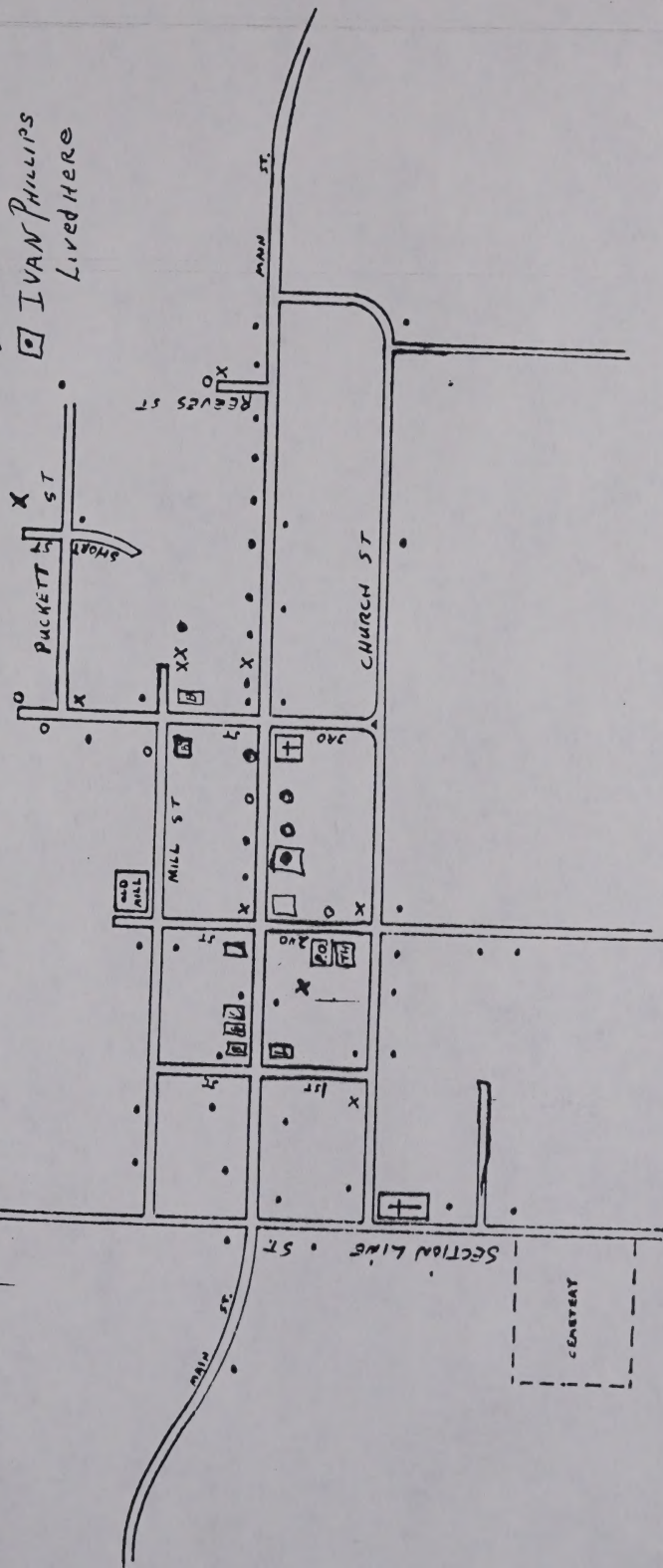
Two and $\frac{75}{100}$ DOLLARS

FOR Overshoe Balus Carter

BURNT PRAIRIE HOUSING MAP, 1988



- LEGEND
- Residence
 - Vacant Dwelling
 - x Mobile Home
 - ⌈ Church
 - ⌈ BUSINESS
 - ⌈ LODGE
 - ⌈ TOWN HOUSE
 - ◻ IVAN PHILLIPS LIVED HERE



NOT TO SCALE

